

**Camden Budget Committee
Minutes of Meeting
March 31, 2015**

PRESENT: Committee Members: Chair Ed Collins, Vice Chair Patty Eddy, Sonny Goodwin, John Lewis, Frank Stearns, Deborah Oliver, Brett Lerner, Morgan Laidlaw, Kate Bates, Joe Rusillo, Anita Brosius-Scott, Robin McIntosh, Steve Melchiskey, Dave Nazaroff, Etienne Perret, Richard Stetson, Rick Knowlton, Richard Gross, T.C. Bland, Jean White, Town Manager Patricia Finnigan, Finance Director Carol Sue Greenleaf, Select Board members John French, Leonard Lookner, Martin Cates, Donald White, James Heard, and Recording Secretary Nora McGrath.

ABSENT: Matt Orne

Chairman Collins called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

John Lewis made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. Richard Gross seconded this motion. The motion carries.

Regarding Dams;

John Lewis made a motion to recommend \$1,000 for Megunticook Dam, and \$1,000 for Montgomery Dam. Richard Gross seconded this motion. The motion carries.

Town Manager Finnigan gave an overview of what the budget committee had approved so far and distributed a summary to date of the changes.

- General Government: reduce part time hours, reduce engineering costs, reduce fewer computers, and seek alternate Workers Compensation Insurance
- Public Safety: reduce overtime, cut \$40,000 incentive pay for Fire Department; reduce custodial expense, Maine Water rate reduction, reduce supplies
- Highway Streets & Bridges: reduced supplies and materials in all lines
- Debt Service Principal & Interest: removed Parks & Recreation all-terrain vehicle
- Capital Reserves: reductions Public Landing \$20,000; Public Safety Building \$5,000; and Parking \$5,000
- Capital Improvement Program: reduced Public Safety Building repair \$6,000; Riverwalk engineering and design \$19,500; Public Safety Generator \$25,000; Public Works Generator \$25,000; Public Works leaf vacuum \$11,500; reduced Police Vehicle line to \$34,000; and reduced Piling Replacement to \$19,000

Dave Nazaroff made a motion to recommend a total reduction of \$288,475 from the total line. John Lewis seconded this motion.

Kate Bates questioned cutting health insurance line versus cutting firefighters incentive pay.

Richard Gross made a motion to amend the motion to reduce the Admin/Fin/Assess line an additional \$46,000. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion fails on a 5-12 vote.

Anita Brosius-Scott made a motion to amend the following lines in General Government: reduce line 1001-1005 \$1,000; reduce line 1001-1201 mileage \$1,000; reduce line 0102-3005 \$5,000; for a total reduction of \$7,000. Dave Nazaroff seconded this motion.

Rick Knowlton wondered if reducing Surplus line would get us to the same place instead of reducing the budget line by line.

Steve Melchiskey made a motion to rescind all prior motions (omnibus rescind). John Lewis seconded this motion. The motion carries.

Kate Bates and John Lewis feel we should keep the \$40,000 in the fire department line for incentive pay.

Brett Lerner made a motion to reduce Planning/Development line to \$195,524 and refund the \$40,000 in Fire Department line. Steve Melchiskey seconded this motion. The motion does not carry.

Kate Bates made a motion to amend the Fire Dept. line back to \$443,844 adding back the incentive pay. Anita Brosius-Scott seconded this motion. The motion does not carry.

Rick Knowlton made a motion to reduce the Library Budget by \$10,000. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion did not carry.

Jean White made a motion to reduce the Library Budget by \$15,000. No second on motion.

Anita Brosius-Scott made a motion to reduce the Public Works line by \$2,500 from fuel line. Dave Nazaroff seconded this motion. The motion carries.

John Lewis recommended reducing General Government line by \$15,000 reductions in part time, professional services, and heating costs for town office and auditorium; reduce public safety line by \$3,500 reducing custodial and fuel lines; reduce Public Works line by \$2,500 with fuel and parking lots costs; reduce Debt Service Interest by \$500; and reduce \$5,000 from Capital Reserves for a total of \$26,500 in addition to previous cuts already made prior to this meeting.

Steve Melchiskey made a motion for final reduction of \$289,975 reducing final total general fund expense to \$7,154,969. This number includes all prior motions in addition to John Lewis recommendation. John Lewis seconded this motion. The motion carries on a vote of 12-7.

Rick Knowlton made a motion add \$70,000 to surplus. Morgan Laidlaw seconded this motion. The motion carries on a 13-5 vote.

John Lewis made a motion to adjourn at 9:05 pm. Dave Nazaroff seconded this motion. The motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Nora McGrath
Recording Secretary