

DRAFT REVISION #2
RANDOLPH BUDGET COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes

Date: 12/04/2008

Time: 6:43 p.m.

Location: Ayers Brook building

Attending: Carol Flint, Judith Soules, Michael Penrod, Larry Townsend, John Clough, Gary Champy (High school students: John White, Sam Lyon, Jay Beacio)

Absent: None

1. Approved 11/25/2008 minutes .
2. Larry reported that he had told the select board that due to the new special appropriations rule we, the budget committee, could not be involved in giving recommendations. The select board told Larry that they want our input. The committee told Larry to tell the select board that the petitions are to them directly and therefore we can't be involved.
3. Reviewed proposed highway budget.
 - * Gary stated that unemployment comp is up because the state removed the cap.
 - * Gary stated that \$60,000 is a good number in vehicle repairs & maint.
 - * Most of the equipment rental is for excavator rental but to buy one would cost \$83,000.
4. We will be taking \$100,000 out of the landfill account.
 - * Gary is looking into ways that we can make money on the landfill -- maybe composting.
5. Carol stated that the library needs to reduce their budget to be more in line with what the other areas are doing, at least under \$200,000.
6. Discussed RACDC and it was stated that the \$20,000 the town donates to them is funding operation expenses rather than trying to develop new businesses in the town and the taxpayers are basically subsidizing low income housing. It was stated that the rents were never high enough to support the infrastructure to run all of the facilities. It was recommended that RACDC, in a year where we are tightening our belts, reduce their budget to \$15,000 in keeping with other cutbacks.
7. Carol stated that all organizations to which the town sends money (unless we are a dues paying member) should become a special appropriation rather than a budget line-item so that the voters have more input to the decision. Gary stated that in the next select board meeting he would talk about making this change. 1 cent in tax

increase = \$40,000.

8. Gary and John will come back to the budget committee with a budget that will reflect a tax rate that is the same as last year.

Next meeting : 12/11/08 at Ayers Brook building at 6:30 to review revised budget proposals.

Meeting adjourned 8:24 p.m.