

Lebanon Budget Committee

Meeting Minutes

2 - 3 - 16

Members Present - Jeri Basko, Becky Batchelder, Laura Bragg, Sean Bright, Corinna Cole, Chris Gilpatrick, Bettie Harris-Howard, Nancy Neubert, Skip Wood

Selectmen Present - Chairperson Thompson, Royce Heath

Department Head - None

Recorders: Jeannette Lemay (video)

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Basko at 6:37. Basko welcomed new member Sean Bright who is filling Chip Harlow's seat until the end of this fiscal year. Minutes from last week were read. A correction was made on the amount sanding had increased - it should read \$10,000. Bettie Harris-Howard motioned to accept the minutes as corrected and Chris Gilpatrick seconded the motion. The minutes were approved as corrected by a unanimous 9-0 vote.

Cemeteries

This budget has increased significantly. Part of the increase is due to anticipated increased legal fees to research the status of the Prospect Hill Cemetery. The town is looking into taking over the upkeep of this cemetery but it is not known who actually owns this land. There was a cemetery trust at one time but the status of this is not clear. Research needs to be done before the town takes on the care of this cemetery. The legal fees for this are estimated at \$10,000.

The Outside Services portion of this budget has also increased due to the upkeep of 70+ small cemeteries in town. Mowing and Clean Up for these cemeteries is estimated at \$24,150. Mowing for Forest Grove and Prospect Hill cemeteries is budgeted at \$7,000.

Budget Increase: \$17,750.

Total Budget: \$42,500.

Capital Improvement Plan

These budgets are for repairs/purchases of \$10,000 or more. Any unused money rolls over into the following year. The only department that has used money from these accounts this year is the Emergency Services Department. It appears that this department is over budget by \$26,972. but there were questions about adding the budgeted amount into the expended line. The amounts in each account are as follows:

Emergency Services:	\$50,000.
Municipal Buildings & Grounds	10,000.
Road Paving	150,000.
Bridges	10,000.

There is an increase of \$5,000. in the Bridges account.

Budget Increase: \$5,000.

Total Budget: \$ 220,000.

Selectman Thompson passed out sample Budget Committee ordinances from other towns in Maine. There was some interest in creating a similar ordinance to go on the ballot in May. Other possible warrant articles for the ballot are money for a new Fire Truck and money for a public access program from Metrocast.

The next meeting will be February 17 at 6:30 to talk over department budgets that the committee still has questions about and any other monetary warrant articles. Bettie Harris-Howard made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Sean Bright. The meeting adjourned at 7:22 with a unanimous 9 - 0 vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy Neubert

Approved as corrected 2-17-16