

**TOWN OF RYE – BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING AND PUBLIC HEARING
2017 TOWN BUDGET
Thursday, January 12, 2017
6:30 p.m.
Rye Jr. High School**

Members Present: Chairman Paul Goldman, Peggy Balboni, Mae Bradshaw, Jenness Beach Representative Randy Crapo, School Board Representative Kevin Brandon, Water District Representative Ralph Hickson and Selectmen's Representative Craig Musselman.

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Goldman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to go into a work session. Seconded by Mae Bradshaw. All in favor.

II. WORK SESSION

a. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of Wednesday, December 7, 2016

Motion by Craig Musselman to approve the minutes of December 7, 2016 as presented. Seconded by Kevin Brandon. All in favor.

- Minutes of Thursday, December 8, 2016

Motion by Craig Musselman to approve the minutes of December 8, 2016 as presented. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

b. Town Department Budgets – Any unfinished Business

ARTICLE 17. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eighty thousand (\$80,000) to conduct preliminary planning, design and engineering for a community center, of which forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) will come from withdrawal of funds from the *Recreation Revolving Fund*. The balance of forty thousand dollars (\$40,000) is to come from general taxation. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen (2-0)

Recreation Director, Lee Arthur, spoke to the committee regarding the warrant article for preliminary planning and design for the possibility of a community center at the existing site on Recreation Road. Part of the funds for the planning will come from the Recreation Revolving Account and part will come from taxation. The Recreation Commission is looking to see if there is town support for a community center before moving further in the process.

Brett Mulvey, Recreation Commission Member, spoke in regards to the lack of space in town for the senior programs and the need for more gymnasium space. He also spoke about the need for heated storage.

Selectman Musselman stated that he is in favor of the warrant article. He thinks the town needs to investigate what kind of facility it might be and what would fit at the recreation fields. He noted that there is also a warrant article that is being proposed to form a committee to look at the possible consolidation of the two schools in town, which may potentially leave one of the schools open for other municipal purposes. As the town continues its necessary planning, for a town hall and a community center, an eye should be kept on that possibility for accomplishing more objectives for less money.

Ms. Arthur noted that the Recreation Commission is looking at long-term leasing at the school because they do not want to take the After-School Program out of the school. She agreed that the schools should be part of the decision making and planning for recreation.

Member Balboni stated that she does not think the town has taken enough time to look at the space needs for everybody in town, whether it's the seniors or the students. The schools came up again when looking at needs for Town Hall. This may be the time to take a step back because everyone seems to be looking at space. She worries about putting something forward exclusively for recreation because everything should be considered together.

Ms. Arthur stated that she understands; however, recreation still has storage needs that need to be considered for the recreation area. She commented that this is very preliminary. A lot of the concerns can be incorporated into the planning and study. One of the recommendations from the Recreation Space Needs Committee was to look at utilizing existing space in town. After this stage, there would be the need to see if there is enough support to go forward with additional funding, which may be in the form of a different location.

Member Crapo stated that he was on the Recreation Space Needs Committee. The committee had the assistance of an architect to evaluate recreation space and storage areas. The recreation storage is all around the town. The other issue is that recreation is always considered last where ever they go for their programs. If the church or the schools decides it needs the space, recreation will be bumped. Programs cannot be scheduled throughout the year with any certainty. The facilities at the recreation area were only meant to be temporary. He supports the article.

There was more discussion in regards to the needs of recreation.

Member Bradshaw asked how much will be remaining in the Revolving Fund if the \$40,000 is taken from this account.

Ms. Arthur noted that there is over \$300,000 in this fund.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to recommend Article 17. Seconded by Randy Crapo.

Chairman Goldman opened to the public for comments.

Peter Crawford, 171 Brackett Road, expressed the concern that it may be too soon for this warrant article.

Vote: 6-1 *(to recommend the warrant article)*

Opposed: Peggy Balboni

Motion by Kevin Brandon to conclude the work session. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

III. PUBLIC HEARING – 2017 TOWN BUDGET

The purpose of the Hearing is to consider the proposed Town Operating Budget for 2017 and Warrant Articles.

At 7:10 p.m., Chairman Goldman opened the Public Hearing for the 2017 Town Budget.

ARTICLE 6. To see if the town will raise and appropriate the sum of three million three hundred eighty-six thousand seven hundred fifty-two dollars (\$3,386,752), gross budget, for the purpose of constructing a new Town Hall office building similar in exterior design and on the same site of the existing Town Hall Building, along with equipment and furnishings, and authorize the borrowing of up to three million three hundred eight-six thousand seven hundred fifty-two dollars (\$3,386,752) through the issuance of not more than three million three hundred eighty-six thousand seven hundred fifty-two dollars (\$3,386,752) of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (N.H. RSA Chapter 33 as amended) and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes, to

determine the rate of interest thereof, and to take such actions as may be necessary to effect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town of Rye, and further, to apply for and accept and expend Federal and State Grants and any private donations towards this purpose. (3/5 ballot vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is not recommended by the Budget Committee 6-3

Chairman Goldman opened to the public for comments.

Peter Crawford, 171 Brackett Road, spoke in opposition of Warrant Article 6.

ARTICLE 7. (By Petition) To see if the town will vote to authorize the Rye Selectmen

- to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,200,000 gross budget for the purpose of renovating the Rye Town Hall 1839 building with due consideration of the historical features
- to construct pursuant to Option 1-Historic Renovation submitted by Hutter Corporation on December 8, 2016
- to authorize the borrowing of up to \$3,200,000 through the issuance of not more than \$3,200,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (N.H. RSA Chapter 33 as amended)
- to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes, to determine the rate of interest thereon, and to take such actions as may be necessary to effect the issuance, negotiation, sale and delivery of such bonds or notes as shall be in the best interest of the Town of Rye,
- to apply for and accept and expend Federal and State Grants and any private donations toward this purpose, and
- to direct the Selectmen to authorize the pursuit of available grants to help defray the cost of renovation.

Rye Town Hall is listed on the New Hampshire State Register of Historic Places and was designated as one of the Seven to Save Endangered Historic Properties for 2015 by the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance.

(3/5 Ballot vote required.) This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget.

This article is not recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is not recommended by the Budget Committee 7-1

Peter Crawford, 171 Brackett Road, expressed concerns about the article; however, he supports the Town Hall not being torn down.

ARTICLE 8. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$175,000) to purchase a new truck with plows and spreader to replace a 2004 six wheel dump truck and authorize the withdrawal of one hundred seventy-five thousand dollars (\$175,000) from the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created in 1994 for this purpose. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. This article has no tax impact. (Majority vote required)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

ARTICLE 9. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred twenty-five thousand dollars (\$125,000) for the reconstruction and paving of Shoals View Drive, a town maintained road, between Parsons Road and Ocean Boulevard, a distance of approximately 500 linear feet. Sum to include engineering services for design, bidding and inspection. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

ARTICLE 10. To see if the Town of Rye will vote to approve the cost items included in the Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Town of Rye Board of Selectmen and the Rye Town Employees Association affiliated with the Teamsters Local 633 of New Hampshire, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

| Year | Estimated Range of Increase over prior Year | |
|----------------|---|-----------------|
| | <u>Base 2%</u> | <u>Max 3.5%</u> |
| 2017 (9 mos.) | \$17,153 | |
| 2018 (12 mos.) | \$18,618 | \$24,481 |
| 2019 (12 mos.) | \$18,230 | \$28,068 |

The range in years 2018 and 2019 is a minimum and maximum amount
Determined by Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA).

And further, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,153 for the 2017 fiscal year, such sum representing additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels in accordance with the most recent collective bargaining agreement. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. Majority vote required.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee 7-1

ARTICLE 12. To see if the Town of Rye will vote to approve the cost items included in the Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Town of Rye Board of Selectmen and the Professional Fire Fighters Association of Rye affiliated with the International Association of Fire Fighters IAFF Local #4411, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

| Year | Estimated Range of Increase over prior Year | |
|----------------|---|-----------------|
| | <u>Base 2%</u> | <u>Max 3.5%</u> |
| 2017 (9 mos.) | \$30,170 | |
| 2018 (12 mos.) | \$35,653 | \$44,605 |
| 2019 (12 mos.) | \$27,660 | \$39,458 |

The range in years 2018 and 2019 is a minimum and maximum amount Determined by Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA).

And further, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,170 for the 2017 fiscal year, such sum representing additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels in accordance with the most recent collective bargaining agreement. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. Majority vote required.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee 7-1

ARTICLE 14. To see if the Town of Rye will vote to approve the cost items included in the Collective Bargaining Agreement reached between the Town of Rye Board of Selectmen and the Rye Police Association affiliated with the Teamsters Local 633 of New Hampshire, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

| Year | Estimated Range of Increase over prior Year | |
|----------------|---|-----------------|
| | <u>Base 2%</u> | <u>Max 3.5%</u> |
| 2017 (9 mos.) | \$22,939 | |
| 2018 (12 mos.) | \$22,335 | \$28,207 |
| 2019 (12 mos.) | \$20,876 | \$29,108 |

The range in years 2018 and 2019 is a minimum and maximum amount Determined by Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA).

And further, to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,939 for the 2017 fiscal year, such sum representing additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels in accordance with the most recent collective bargaining agreement. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. Majority vote required.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee 7-1

ARTICLE 16. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) to be added to the Fire Truck Capital Reserve Fund established by Town vote in 1965. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

ARTICLE 18. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) to be added to the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund created in 1994. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

ARTICLE 19. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the Town Employees' Accumulated Leave Expendable Trust Fund, established pursuant to RSA 31:91-a by Article 14 of the 1990 Rye Town Meeting for the purpose of funding Town Employees' accumulated leave accounts. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

ARTICLE 20. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Municipal Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund established by Article 11 at the 2007 Town Meeting under the provisions RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of major repairs to municipal buildings. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

ARTICLE 21. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to contract for engineering design plus bidding services to replace the existing salt shed and authorize the withdrawal of twenty-five thousand (\$25,000) from the Salt/Sand Storage Building Capital Reserve Fund created in 2005 for this purpose. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. This article has no tax impact. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

ARTICLE 22. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the Rye Public Library Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund established by Article 14 at the 2005 Town Meeting under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, as a maintenance fund for the Rye Public Library building. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

This article is recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee 10-0

ARTICLE 23. Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein totaling nine million four hundred thirteen thousand nine hundred fifty-two dollars (\$9,413,952)? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be eight million eight hundred forty thousand three hundred thirty-six dollars (\$8,840,336) which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. (Majority vote required.)

NOTE: This operating budget warrant article does not include appropriations in ANY other warrant articles.

This article is recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is recommended by the Budget Committee 8-0

Peter Crawford, 171 Brackett Road, spoke in regards to the operating budget.

ARTICLE____. (By Petition) Should Article 6 (Hutter Option 2) for tear down and rebuild) and article 7 (Hutter Option 1) for renovation) fail to pass, shall the town vote to raise and appropriate an amount not to exceed \$500,000 to repair and refurbish the exterior of the historic Rye Town Hall, to provide handicapped access and facilities, to replace and restore windows as appropriate, and improve the energy efficiency, while taking into consideration the impact of twenty-first century technology on space needs.

This article is not recommended by the Selectmen 2-0
This article is not recommended by the Budget Committee 7-1

Peter Crawford, 171 Brackett Road, spoke in regards to the article. He is requesting the committee reconsider their vote.

Member Bradshaw spoke in support of the article.

The consensus of the committee was to not reconsider the vote.

Chairman Goldman closed the Public Hearing at 8:25 p.m.

IV. OTHER BUSINESS

- **Town Deliberative Session – February 4th**
- **Precinct Budget Meeting – February 7th**
- **School Budget Deliberative Session – February 8th**

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Craig Musselman to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Seconded by Randy Crapo. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

TOWN OF RYE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

BUDGET COMMITTEE

PUBLIC HEARING - 2017 TOWN BUDGET

THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2017, 6:30 P.M., RYE TOWN HALL

The purpose of the Hearing is to consider the Town's proposed Operating Budget for 2017 and Warrant Articles.

| Name (please print) | Address | Signature |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| PAUL GOLDMAN | 990 Washington Road Rye, NH | Paul Goldman |
| Mae Bradshaw | 106 Harbor Rd. Rye | Mae C. Bradshaw |
| Randy Crapo | 8 Big Rock Rd Rye | Randy Crapo |
| Lee Aarham | | Lee Aarham |
| Michael Ponsar | Town Administrator | Michael Ponsar |
| Donna DeCotis | 2 Victory Lane | Donna DeCotis |
| Peter F. Rowan | Building Inspector | Peter F. Rowan |
| Dennis McCarthy | Rye Public Works | Dennis McCarthy |
| THOMAS J. LAMBERT | Rye Fire | Thomas J. Lambert |
| Kimberly Reed | Planning/Zoning Admin | Kimberly Reed |
| Kevin Walsh | Rye Police | Kevin Walsh |
| Peter Crawford | 171 Brackett Rd. | Peter C. Crawford |
| Kate Lipman | 484 Brackett | Kate Lipman |
| Frances Erlebach | 484 Brackett | Frances Erlebach |
| Mike Errecart | 11 Forest Green Rd | Mike Errecart |
| Debra Crapo | 8 Big Rock Rd. | Debra Crapo |
| Ralph Hickson | 91 Washington Rd | Ralph Hickson |
| KEVIN BRANDON | 617 CENTRAL RD | Kevin Brandon |
| Peggy Balboni | 40 Red Mill Ln. | Peggy Balboni |