

Town of Boscawen  
Budget Committee Public Hearing - Draft  
Boscawen Municipal Complex  
February 8, 2018 at 6 p.m.

Present: Ed Cherian, Chair, Roger Sanborn via telephone audio, Gail Egounis, Rhoda Hardy, Sherlene Fisher, Barbara Randall, Bruce Crawford, Alan Hardy, Nicole Hoyt, Kevin Wyman, Dean Hollins, Ray Fisher, Mark Varney, Kellee Jo Easler, Katie Phelps, Sarah Gerlack and Michele Brochu

Meeting began at 6:04 pm. Roll call completed.

Bruce Crawford is full voting member tonight.

A **motion** to ratify the meeting from Wednesday, February 7, 2018 to tonight, Thursday, February 8, 2018 was made by Bruce Crawford, second by \_\_\_\_\_ and passed by a unanimous vote.

**Review and approval 2/28/17 Budget Committee Public Hearing.** A motion to accept the Minutes as drafted was made by Bruce Crawford, seconded by Barbara Randall and passed by a unanimous vote.

**Review and approval of 1/24/18 Draft Budget Committee Meeting Minutes.**

Page 1, Line 14 The motion to nominate Ed Cherian was made by Bruce Crawford

Page 1, Line 6 Ed Cherian is listed twice.

Doddy was misspelled in different areas of the Minutes. Change to her full name of Sherlene Fisher.

Page 2, Line 90 – Gail Egounis stated that it should read “why are you increasing the budget” as it is increasing to \$18,000.

Page 5, Line 192. It was noted that it should read treasurer audit would be a one-time expense. The town audit is an every year thing. Change the Minutes to read Tax Clerk and Treasurer would get an audit when they leave. Alan Hardy suggested they put “treasurer’s audit” in parenthesis.

Page 5 – Planning & Community Development Budget – Gail Egounis’ name should be listed instead of Barbara Randall. One page 6 as well. Line 220. Line 233. Line 259. Page 7 between 290 and 300.

Page 7, Line 295 should read “if this was something...”

Page 7, Line 297 and 298 is Gail Egounis.

Ed Cherian asked if Warrant Article III & IV were deferred to the budget hearing. Alan Hardy said that Warrant Article III and IV were because they hadn’t created the numbers yet. The numbers are in the Warrant now. Ed Cherian asked if the committee deferred a vote on the operating budget. Alan Hardy said correct. Ed Cherian said that’s an action they need to take up tonight.

A **motion** to approve the Minutes, as amended, was made by Rhoda Hardy, seconded by Barbara Randall and passed by a unanimous vote.

Ed Cherian wanted it noted on the record that Brian Fleury applied to join the budget committee. It was recommended to the Board of Selectmen to approve it. Mark Varney stated that he will be sworn in Wednesday night at the Selectmen's meeting.

**Warrant Article III Operating Budget.**

The Committee reviewed the proposed Warrant Article III Operating Budget. Katie Phelps noted that the revised pages are blue. Tab 4 has a draft MS363 and the 2018 Operating Budget. The blue pages also have percentages for employees that are split between departments and the health insurance is also added to the bottom. Mark Varney asked if they wanted to vote on Article III now or go through the lines. Ed Cherian noted that the committee has already gone through those lines at the prior meeting and they are just going to vote on whether or not to recommend it. Katie Phelps also added the current balances of the Capital Reserves onto those sheets.

A **motion** to recommend Warrant Article III, as proposed, was made by Bruce Crawford, seconded by Barbara Randall and passed by a unanimous vote.

**Warrant Article IV Raise \$185,000 for Town Capital Reserve Fund a-g.**

Alan noted that these numbers came from the CIP work session. Gail Egounis asked what the \$10,000 in the town wide safety equipment was for. Kevin Wyman explained it was for helmets an extra carrier with a trauma plate for high powered rifle. The trauma plates are only guaranteed for 5 years. Gail Egounis asked Ray Fisher when he'd need a new fire truck. Ray Fisher said maybe 2 years from now. Gail Egounis asked what the cost of a new truck would roughly be. Chief Fisher said the price is roughly \$475,000. Bruce Crawford questioned the highway equipment balance. Dean Hollins noted that the backhoe will soon need to be replaced as well as other items. Gail Egounis asked how much a backhoe would cost. Dean Hollins thought it would be around \$120,000. Ed Cherian asked if they buy new or used. Dean Hollins said they have looked at lease, but they wouldn't get the municipal rebate.

Alan Hardy said the \$185,000 budget package presented will increase taxes by .76 per thousand. The total taxable property value is \$242,595,967.

A **motion** to recommend Warrant Article IV was made by Gail Egounis, seconded by Sherlene Fisher and passed by a unanimous vote.

**Warrant Article VI -**

Alan Hardy noted DES had originally tried to set this up as a grant program and couldn't do it. This is drafted to be a \$60,000 bond. Katie Phelps has the procedures. Katie Phelps said it's an offsetting revenue. Dean Hollins said they have a grant. Ed Cherian asked if they could include documenting and creating GSP coordinates for all the hydrants. Dean Hollins said yes. Ed Cherian said it's a bond so it requires a 2/3<sup>rd</sup> vote at town meeting.

A **motion** to recommend approving Warrant Article VI was made by Bruce Crawford, seconded by Rhoda Hardy and passed by a unanimous vote.

Ed Cherian opened the public hearing at 6:42 pm.

99 Mark Varney gave the bottom line for each department.  
100

	2017	2018	Increase	Amount	Decrease	Amount
Line 4130 Executive Budget	\$162,243	\$143,640.69			11%	\$18,602.31
Mark Varney said the decrease is due to the benefit package being moved in one grouping under Personnel Administration.						
Line 4143 Town Clerk/Elections	\$83,433	\$70,766.67			15%	\$12,666.33
Line 4150 Financial Administration	\$111,692	\$81,259.30			27%	\$30,432.70
Line 4151 Tax Collector	\$72,507	\$46,932.64			35%	\$25,574.36
Line 4152 Assessing	\$59,083	\$59,414.84	1%	\$333.84		
Line 4153 Legal	\$35,000	\$45,000	29%	\$10,000		
Line 4155 Personnel Administration	\$104,677	\$642,696.75		\$538,029.75		
<b>This increase is due to benefits being moved into this line.</b>						
Line 4191 Planning/Community Development	\$171,565	\$134,005.08			22%	\$37,559.92
Line 4193 AGCOM	\$2,500	\$2,000			20%	\$500.00
Line 4194 Town Buildings	\$108,479	\$92,364.64			15%	\$16,114.36
Line 4195 Cemeteries	\$3,500	\$3,500				
Line 4196 Insurance	\$38,655	\$39,737	3%	\$1,082		
Line 4210 Police	\$778,974	\$597,206.40			23%	\$181,767.60
Line 4220 Fire	\$183,690	\$188,500	3%	\$4810		
Line 4240 Life Safety Officer	\$8,190	\$7628.66			7%	\$561.34

	2017	2018	Increase	Amount	Decrease	Amount
Line 4290 Emergency Management	\$7,130	\$6,944.72			3%	\$185.28
Line 4312 Highways & Streets	\$650,036	\$537,141.68			17%	\$112,894.32
Line 4316 Street Lighting	\$20,000	\$20,000				
Line 4319 Other Highways and Streets	\$5,500	\$5,500				
Line 4324 Solid Waste Disposal	\$241,731	\$209,255.76			13%	\$32,475.24
Line 4325 Solid Waste Cleanup	\$10,000	\$46,000				\$36,000
Ed Cherian asked if the increase was due to C&D Landfill closure. Dean Hollins said correct.						
Line 4329 Other Sanitation	\$72,000	\$72,000				
Line 4410 Health Department	\$11,081	\$10,065.82			9%	\$1,015.18
Line 4441 Welfare	\$65,848	\$59,148			10%	\$6,700
Line 4520 Parks & Rec	\$46,230	\$36,000			22%	\$10,230
Line 4550 Library	\$102,366	\$100,558			2%	\$1,808
Line 4583831 Old Home day	\$5,000	\$0			100%	
Line 4583803 Town Beautification	\$1,250	\$1,250				
Line 4611 Conservation Commission	\$2,200	\$2,200				
Line 4700 Debt Services	\$176,937	\$171,421			3%	\$5,516
Ed Cherian suggested that next year a schedule of when the Bonds were retiring would be nice to see. Alan Hardy noted it was in the town report.						

102 Budget for all departments before municipal sewer:  
103 2017 was \$3,341,487  
104 2018 \$3,432,137.65 for a 3% increase of \$90,060.65  
105  
106 Cherian asked if the Public questions? Mike Fisher asked why the Old Home Day budget went down. Mark  
107 Varney said they have \$27,000 in their reserve right now.  
108  
109 Public Hearing was closed at 6:57 pm.  
110  
111 Other business: none  
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113 A **motion** to adjourn the meeting was made by Bruce Crawford, seconded by Barbara Randall and passed by a  
114 unanimous vote.  
115  
116  
117 *Respectfully submitted by Rose Fife*