

**Town of Greenland
Budget Committee
February 3, 2010**

Present: Mary McDonough (chairperson), John Weeks, Charlie Cummings (selectman's representative-alternate), Stephen Gerrato, Mike Marsh, Michael (Kip) Lebar, Pat Walsh, Bob Krasko, Ron Gross, Sandra Trull-Smith and Jim Haslam (school board representative)

Absent: Bruce Dearborn, selectman's representative

Also present: Karen Anderson, Town Administrator. In audience, Liz Cummings, Library employee and library trustees, Vaughn Morgan, Chris Halligan, Jon Wendell (selectman), Bruce Dearborn (selectman), Mary Dearborn, Martha Stone (school board chairperson), and Ann Mayer (school board).

The meeting was called to order at 6:35. A motion was made by Mr. Haslam and seconded by Mr. Krasko to accept the meeting minutes of January 27, 2010. All were in favor with Mr. Gross abstaining since he was not at the meeting.

Since Mr. Katkin was unable to attend, Mr. Haslam did ask Mrs. Stone and Mrs. Mayer to attend to help answer any questions which may arise during the meeting concerning the proposed school budget. Mr. Haslam informed the committee that there are 3 new recommended reductions the budget committee to act on regarding the school budget. There was a student receiving special education services who moved out of Greenland thus the obligation to fund tuition and transportation to another school no longer holds. The school also looked into using another less costly anti-virus computer program. As we address these lines, the appropriate action will be made.

Mr. Haslam also advised the committee that the anticipated revenue for Education Adequacy is \$489,992. This money is given to the town by the state; it is used to offset the amount which needs to be raised in taxes. The school committee is discussing the proposed warrant article for a deficit appropriation; they will discuss whether or not they are going to proceed with this article. Mr. Haslam will update the budget committee after the school board meeting.

The committee proceeded with a line by line review of the proposed school budget: The chairperson encouraged the committee to approach the school budget in the same manner as we did the town budget with the expectation that the town can not pull funds from the unreserved fund balance to keep the tax rate down. The following action was made.

A motion was made by Mr. Gross and seconded by Mr. Gerratto to reduce line 10-110-110-20-10 Teacher Salaries from \$142,279 to \$122,279. The vote was tied 5-5; the chairperson broke the tie with an opposing vote and the motion failed.

A motion was made by Mr. Lebar and seconded by Mr. Marsh to reduce all raises for supportive staff from 3% to 1.5%. The rationale was that to be equitable with the raise the town employees would receive. The motion passed with a vote of 10-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Marsh and seconded by Mr. Gross to reduce line 10-1100-120-40-10 from \$10,000 to \$8,000. The motion passed with a vote of 7-2.

A motion was made by Mr. Weeks and seconded by Mr. Gross to reduce line 10-1100-733-00-10 Additional Furniture from \$847 to \$0. The motion failed with a vote of 4-6.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerratto to reduce line 10-1220-110-40-10 Special Education Teacher Salaries by \$60,000. The motion died due to lack of a second.

Mr. Lebar did volunteer to meet with Mary Lyons to gather information regarding special education to help the committee with their decision making process. Ms. Trull -Smith questioned if the school would qualify for more reimbursement from Medicaid.

A motion was made by Mr. Gross and seconded by Mr. Weeks to reduce line 10-1270-110-20-10 Enrichment from \$39,200 to \$30,900. The motion passed with a vote of 7-2 with Mr. Walsh abstaining.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerratto and seconded by Mr. Weeks to reduce line 10-1410-591-00-10 Assemblies from \$5,000 to \$2,500. The motion passed with a vote of 6-4.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerratto and seconded by Mr. Gross to reduce line 10-140-610-00-10 Club Supplies from \$2,486 to \$1,200. The motion failed with a vote of 2-8.

A motion was made by Mr. Marsh and seconded by Mr. Gross to reduce line 10-1420-120-90-10 Co-curricular Salaries from \$28,980 to \$27,980. The motion passed with a vote of 6-4.

A motion was made by Mr. Krasko and seconded by Mr. Weeks to reduce line 10-1420-610-00-10 Athletic supplies from \$2,540 to \$1,200. The motion passed with a vote of 6-3 with Mr. Lebar abstaining.

A motion was made by Mr. Krasko and seconded by Mr. Gross to reduce line 10-1420-735-00-10 Athletic equipment replacement from \$1,925 to \$500. The motion passed with a vote of 8-1 with Mr. Walsh abstaining.

A question arose regarding why the nurse position is for 197 days. Mr. Haslam will get back to the committee with an answer at which time this line will be revisited.

A motion was made by Mr. Haslam and seconded by Mr. Gross to reduce line 10-2222-617-00-10 library software from \$4,190 to \$3,743. The motion passed with a vote of 7-0 with three members abstaining.

A motion was made by Mr. Gross and seconded by Mr. Gerratto to reduce line 10-2222-731-00-10 Audiovisual equipment from \$1,260 to \$360. The motion passed by a vote of 5-4.

A motion was made by Mrs. McDonough and seconded by Mr. Gross to reduce line 10-2223-735-00-10 from \$940 to \$0. The motion passed with a vote of 5-4. A second motion was made to amend the line to increase the line from \$0 to \$470. The motion passed with a vote of 6-1.

A motion was made by Mr. Haslam and seconded by Mr. Walsh to reduce line 10-2225-533-00-10 from \$12,939 to \$11,663. The motion passed by a vote of 8-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Lebar and seconded by Mr. Walsh to reduce line 10-2225-734-00-10 Additional technology hardware from \$4,010 to \$2,005. The motion passed with a vote of 9-1.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerratto and seconded by Mr. Weeks to reduce line 10-2225-738-00-10 Technology Hardware replacement from \$20,756 by \$12,750. The motion failed with a vote of 1-6. A second motion was made by Mr. Gross and seconded by Mr. Krasko to reduce this line to \$14,381. This motion passed with a vote of 6-4.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerratto and seconded by Mr. Marsh to reduce line 10-2620-110-90-10 Custodial Salaries from \$184,047 by \$35,000. The motion passed with a vote of 7-3.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerratto and seconded by Mr. Weeks to reduce line 10-2620-496-00-10 Contracted painting from \$2,500 to \$0. The motion failed by a vote of 3-6.

A motion was made by Mr. Marsh and seconded by Mr. Gerratto to reduce line 10-2620-610-00-10 Custodial Supplies from \$17,307 to \$14,307. The motion passed with a vote of 8-1 with Mr. Walsh abstaining.

A motion was made by Mr. Gerratto to reduce line 10-2630-422-00-10 Snow Plowing from \$21,375 to \$11,375. The motion died due to lack of a second.

A motion was made by Mr. Gross and seconded by Mr. Gerratto to reduce line 10-4600-450-00-10 Maintenance Objectives from \$15,000 to \$10,000. The motion passed with a vote of 6-4.

A motion was made by Mr. Haslam and seconded by Mr. Krasko to reduce line 10-1220-563-00-32 Tuition to Private High School from \$70,845 to \$33,158. The motion passed with a vote of 10-0.

A motion was made by Mr. Haslam and seconded by Mr. Krasko to reduce line 10-2722-519-00-32 Special Education Transportation from \$67,827 to \$42,627. The motion passed with a vote of 10-0.

The proposed warrant articles were reviewed with a straw poll taken. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 10th with a snow date of February 11th at the Greenland Central School for the Public Hearing.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary McDonough
Chairperson