

**Town of Greenland
Budget Committee Meeting
January 10, 2009**

Present: Budget Committee Members: Mary McDonough, Chairperson, R.B. Lawrence, John Weeks, Patrick Walsh, Ron Gross, Sandra Trull Smith, Mike Marsh, Bob Krasko, Jim Haslam, school board representative, Paul Sanderson, Selectman's representative

Also present: Karen Anderson, Town Administrator, Marge Morgan (town clerk), Denise Grimes (Weeks library) and other library trustees, Bob Cushman (Building inspector), and Brian Pafford (recreation committee)

Absent: none

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Mary McDonough, after which the meeting minutes from 1-6-09 were approved by a unanimous vote.

The following department heads presented their proposed budgets and answered questions as they arose:

Brian Pafford: Recreation committee reported that they were able to fund a piece of playground equipment by using monies from the revolving fund. They had unexpected expenses related to the basketball court last summer which did cause them to go over budget. This year they do not expect any warrant articles; however have started to discuss an article for next year to reimburse members for millage.

Marge Morgan: reported that office expenses are up due to the fact the state now requires a certain printer for which the ink cartridges cost over \$300. This printer is required to meet state compliance. A line for preservation of records was added after a warrant article was passed at last year's town meeting. Due to the recent economic changes, Ms. Morgan does expect a drop of about \$30,000 in car registration fees this coming year.

Denise Grimes: reports a line for unplanned maintenance to the amount of \$5,000 was added at the selectman's suggestion due to the fact that the library is old and has had a recent history of unexpected repairs. Ms. Grimes also reported that the library has switched to the same health care plan the town offers its employees. The full time staff of the library qualifies for the plan and will pay 10% of the cost. Employees are offered the option of a single or family plan. This is hard to budget for not knowing if employees will switch during the course of the year. The hours and staffing of the library will remain unchanged this coming year. A warrant article is expected for \$7,700 to bring the total account in the emergency maintenance fund back up to the \$15,000 approved in a warrant article at last year's town meeting.

Bob Cushman: reports that the budget committee can remove the cost of a laptop (\$2,800 on line item 1-4240-272) due to the fact that he does not feel he will have the program up and running this coming year. He does expect to add this to the budget for 2010.

Karen Anderson: reported that mosquito control is unchanged from previous years (this is a contract we hold with an outside vendor). She also reported that we currently provide welfare services for 5 families. Due to the fact that more individuals may need assistance due to the recent decline in

the economy.

At the conclusion of the budget review, Mr. Haslam brought up the subject of a generator at the school. During the recent power outage, individuals from Greenland did not want to be transported to Portsmouth shelters and chose rather to stay in their homes. We were unable to provide a shelter in Greenland due to the fact we can not provide meals at the school. The current generator does not supply the kitchen area. This is a topic we can discuss further with the school board.

Next meeting Tuesday, January 13 at 7:00 at Town Hall to begin line by line review of the proposed town budget. Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectively submitted:

Mary McDonough
Chair, Budget Committee