

TOWN OF KENSINGTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
Kensington Elementary School Library
122 Amesbury Road
Kensington, NH 03833
TUESDAY
September 22, 2015
Meeting Minutes-DRAFT
7:30pm

PUBLIC HEARING

In Attendance: Norman DeBoisbriand, Chairman; Robert Wadleigh; Peter Merrill

Public In Attendance: Holly McCann; Jim Webber; Joan Webber; Linda Blood; Richard Elwell; Sue Herney; Jack Herney

Norman DeBoisbriand Opened the Public Hearing for the Budget at 7:30pm.

Norman explained that since this is a special election the budget appears differently. Most of the budget line items are zeroed out because only the sections that are affected by the warrant article need to be filled in.

BUDGET HEARING:

The Kensington Board of Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing to discuss the budget associated with the following Special Warrant Article to be warned and voted upon by the legislative body at Special Town Meeting:

Special Warrant Article

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00) for the purpose of renovating the old Town Hall at 95 Amesbury Rd, Kensington, New Hampshire, also known as Tax Map No. 11, Lot 2 to be utilized by the Town for future location of the Town's Police Department, Emergency Management and Administrative Offices. To authorize the Municipal Officials to raise Seven Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00) by the use of Six Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$600,000) from unassigned fund balance, with an additional amount of \$150,000 to come from donations.

The first item is under line item 4194 All Government Buildings for the Seven Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$750,000.00). This is a special election budget that only has one item within the budget expenses. No questions or comments.

Next line item was the income for the expense that was discussed. Norman detailed that some of the revenue will come from a donation that was secured by the Selectmen in written form for One Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$150,000), and that Six Hundred Thousand (\$600,000) will come from the unreserved fund balance.

Norman went through the details that the estimated money to be raised by taxes is zero. The town has funds in the Unreserved Funds Balance of \$941, 941.00. Mr. Webber asked what the fund balance is and if it is actual cash. Norman explained that it is money that has been left over each year and added to the unreserved funds. Various elements helped to increase the amounts, there were increases in vehicle registration, fire department funds for the Fire Truck payment were not encumbered, and cuts in spending from the previous boards.

Norman made a motion to approve the budget as discussed, Bob seconded, all in favor.

The board signed the MS-636-SP that will be forwarded to the state.

The Warrant Article was then reviewed by the board and members present.

This is the actual article that will appear on the ballot on November 3, 2015. Norman explained that there is no impact to the tax rate from this article.

Norman made a motion to approve the warrant article, Peter seconded all in favor.

As a result of this meeting the warrant article will be posted and there will be a deliberative session on October 3, 2015.

The Board explained that the warrant article can be amended at the deliberative session, so it is important for residents to attend. The board explained that the deliberative session is just a majority vote of the residents in attendance. Ms. McCann asked if it is public knowledge of who the donors are based on the article. The board indicated that the donor did

not ask to remain private, and has given the board a letter of commitment. Mr. Lewis has generously agreed to donate the funds if the project is approved by the town.

The board explained that the board will be able to work the funds in a way that if the building does not cost the whole \$600,000 it will be returned to the unreserved fund balance. The board is looking to keep the spending to a minimum.

All in attendance were very happy with the planning and work that the board has done to get the town to this point.

Mr. Elwell explained that at the last selectmen's meeting there was a very nice awards ceremony. One of the Kensington Police Department members was given a lifesaving reward, and the survivor presented the award. He also indicated that there is an article in the union leader.

Ms. McCann asked if the board was thinking about having another open house. The board has not set a date for that.

The town has a small sign that will be put in front of the town hall to announce when the deliberative session is and when the town vote will be.

The board and the public went over the different ways to get the word out to the public about the upcoming deliberative session and the town vote. There is a question and answer sheet that explains the addition and has copies of the proposed addition and layout of the offices.

The board voted to add to add the wording to the bottom of the article.

Selectmen recommend this appropriation unanimously.

Estimated Tax Impact: \$.00 per thousand dollar valuation

Norman made a motion to add the wording to the warrant article, Bob seconded, all in favor.

Motion to adjourn was made by Norman, Peter seconded, all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathleen T Felch