

St George Budget Committee
Meeting Minutes
24-Jul-23

Members:

Susan Ellis, Chair - Present

Scott Vaitones, Secretary - Present

Chris Williamson - Present

David Percival, - Present

Elizabeth May - Absent

**Others Present: Rick Erb, Town Administrator: Irene Ames, Finance Director,
Van Thompson, Chair, Town Select Board**

Suzy Ellis agreed to remain as Committee Chair for the next year.

Scott Vaitones volunteered to be the Recording Secretary for the next year.

At the end of each fiscal year quarter the Budget Committee reviews the Town's financial report for each department. The Committee will then meet quarterly with Rick Erb and Irene Ames to discuss the financials and any specify areas of concern the Budget Committee may have or that Rick or Irene may have. The Committee then presents a brief report to the full Select Board outlining any concerns within the current year.

The Budget Committee also reviews the proposed following year budget as the Select Board prepares it. The Budget Committee will also develop a list of priorates and / or concerns regarding the proposal budget and reviews those with the Select Board.

The Budget Committee would like to commend the work Irene Ames has done in better detailing groupings within the Financials and better forecasting and budgeting. Irene has taken the time to better understand the Town's financials software and how to align the various departments within the software.

The Budget Committee currently has two alternate member slots in need of volunteers.

The Committee discussed the long term impact of taking over the ambulance service and the need to budget for a new ambulance to be purchased in two years.

The ambulance services will be a separate department going forward.

The construction at 10 Cold Storage is well underway and is expected to be complete by June 2024.

Some of the Federal ARPA funds are being used to reduce the tax burden.

Overall, the Town is in a very strong financial position with no concerns.

Also of note: All appointed Budget Committee members are required to complete a 2 hour training on "The Freedom of Information Act".

On a motion from Chris Williamson and seconded by Susy Ellis the Budget Committee adjourned at 7:05 PM.

Scott Vaitones, Recording secretary

Departments reviewed by the Budget Committee:

Town Office

Select Board / Assessors

Planning

Fire Department

Animal Control

Roads/Property Mgt.

Solid Waste

General Assistance

Soc/Community Services

Harbors

Unclassified

Revenue