

Approved: _____
Approved with changes: _____
Unapproved: _____

Effingham Budget Committee Minutes
68 School Street, Effingham
December 10, 2019

Members Present: Dave Strauss (chair), Theresa Swanick, Leo Racine (vice chair), Tom Hart, Tim Eldridge, Jory Augenti, Chuck Fuller (selectmen's rep).

Members Absent: None.

Others Present: Nate Fogg, John Meisner (selectman), Mike Cahalane (selectman).

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

Minutes

The Budget Committee (BC) reviewed the minutes from the November 26th meeting.

A motion was made by Dave Strauss to approve the November 26th minutes as printed. The motion was seconded by Tim Eldridge. The vote was 6-0-1 in favor of the motion, with Chuck Fuller abstaining.

The Budget Committee (BC) reviewed the minutes from the December 4th meeting.

A motion was made by Tim Eldridge to approve the December 4th minutes as printed. The motion was seconded by Tom Hart. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion.

New Business

DRA will provide presentation to the Budget Committee on Wed, January 22, 2020 at the earliest time at or after 4:30pm. Dave Strauss will confirm actual time when available.

Budget Reviews

Budgets approved to date will level fund the overall town budget.

4916 Trust Funds

Bridge Maintenance- 2019 Budget amount \$0. 2020 Budget request \$0.

Elm Street bridge under contract for repair. Funds for Snow Road bridge repair are in place to complete in 2020.

Municipal Buildings- 2019 Budget amount \$15,000. 2020 Budget request \$5,000.

There is money in the Operating Budget for regular (ongoing) building maintenance. This fund covers unexpected or emergency repairs not covered by the operating budget. This amount will build the trust fund total back up to target of \$45,000. Building demo will be needed at a cost of approximately \$40,000.

Municipal Electronic Equipment- 2019 Budget amount \$2,500. 2020 Budget request \$1,000. Computer technology is over budget this year to bring the Town's computer systems up to date for secure and regularly backed up computer data. A company has been hired to check the computer system and update on a quarterly basis in the future.

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Police Safety Gear- 2019 Budget amount \$2,000. 2020 Budget request \$2,000.

Police safety gear is upgraded on a nearly ongoing basis. This fund provides monies for safety gear updates.

Historic Town Hall- 2019 Budget amount \$20,000. 2020 Budget request \$5,000.

Monies used to reimburse expenses on Historic Town Hall.

Library- 2019 Budget amount \$0. 2020 Budget request \$0.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to fund the trust funds at a total of \$13,000. Leo Racine seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

4150 Financial Administration- Auditing

Current budget \$15,500. Budget request \$12,000.

Current year budget contains monies for previously prepared audit. Budget request for total audit preparation for coming year.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to fund the budget request at \$12,000. Dave Strauss seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

4316 Street Lighting

Current budget \$7,750. Budget request \$7,750.

Budget for 25 streetlights. Streetlights are a unit cost not based upon meter readings. Switching to more efficient LED streetlights would be at the cost of the town. Theresa Swanick noted that a streetlight study was done previously. Selectmen are directed find previous study and determine if some streetlights can be eliminated.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to fund the budget request at \$7,750. Tom Hart seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

4901 Other Warrants

Historic Town Hall Restoration Grant- 2020 Budget request \$4,500.

Grant transfer monies, no impact on the tax rate.

Dave Strauss made a motion to support the warrant for a total of \$4,500. Tim Eldridge seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Transfer Station Special Reserve Fund- 2020 Budget request \$0.

Special reserve fund set up to receive funds collected at the transfer station to be expended for transfer station equipment.

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Dave Strauss made a motion to support the warrant for a total of \$0. Tim Eldridge seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Parking Ordinance Citations- 2020 Budget request \$0.
Special reserve fund set up to receive funds collected from parking citations.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to support the warrant for a total of \$0. Tom Hart seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Baily Road Culvert Grant- 2020 Budget request \$900.
For permitting and design of Baily Road culvert. Grant specific to Baily Road project would need to be reimbursed.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to fund the trust fund at a total of \$900. Dave Strauss seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Green Mountain Road Final Overlay- 2020 Budget request \$225,000.
This amount will allow the town to place final wear coat of pavement over phase one and phase two of the road reconstruction. This will protect the previously installed base coat and give the pavement the best chance for a long life. Dave Strauss felt that delaying the wear coat one year would not significantly reduce the life of the pavement project and would help with the overall town tax burden this year.

Dave Strauss made a motion to reduce the funding to \$190,000. The motion failed due to lack of a second.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to fund the trust fund at a total of \$225,000. Tom Hart seconded the motion. The vote was 6-1 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Nea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Dissolve Municipal Safety Bldg Trust- 2020 Budget request \$-51,000

Tim Eldridge made a motion to fund the trust fund at a total of \$-51,000. Dave Strauss seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Snow Road Bridge Option 1- \$200K from Capital Reserve Fund, \$75K General Fund, Funding from taxes at \$25K if Municipal Safety Bldg Trust dissolved.

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Tim Eldridge made a motion to support the warrant for a total of \$300,000. Theresa Swanick seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Snow Road Bridge Option 2- \$200K from Capital Reserve Fund, \$25K General Fund, Funding from taxes \$75K if Municipal Safety Trust not dissolved.

Dave Strauss made a motion to support the warrant for a total of \$300,000. Tim Eldridge seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

EMS 5-Year Contract- 2020 Budget request \$85,000.

This is the cost of the first year of the contract. Future cost dependent on actual usage by the town.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to support the warrant for a total of \$85,000. Theresa Swanick seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Care Plus Contract- 2020 Budget request \$0.

This warrant will end the current funding of the ambulance contract with Care Plus. New contract with Action Ambulance ready to be signed. Approval not needed if current contract ending on 12/31/2019 is rescinded.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to support the warrant for a total of \$0. Dave Strauss seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

4312.18 Road Reconstruction Fund- Budget amount \$30,000.

Needed to capture \$30K in road reconstruction funds in the amount of \$30K and place them back in the Town's General Fund.

Dave Strauss made a motion to support the warrant for a total of \$30,000. Theresa Swanick seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

4915 Capital Reserve Funds

Aquatic- Previous request \$1,610. Current request \$2,340.

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Replenishes fund from previous expenditures.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to fund the Aquatic Capital Reserve Fund at \$2,340. Tom Hart seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Fire Truck/ Equipment- Previous request \$20,000. Current request \$20,000.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to fund the Fire Truck/ Equipment Capital Reserve Fund at \$20,000. Leo Racine seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Police Cruiser- Previous request \$10,000. Current request \$10,000.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to fund the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund at \$10,000. Dave Strauss seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Transfer/ Recycling- Previous request \$2,000. Current request \$2,000.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to fund the Transfer/Recycling Capital Reserve Fund at \$2,000. Dave Strauss seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Parsonsfield Mutual Aid- Previous request \$1,000. Current request \$1,000.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to support the warrant for the Parsonsfield Mutual Aid Capital Reserve Fund at \$1,000. Dave Strauss seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Planning Land Use CIP- Previous request \$0. Current request \$1,875.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to fund the Planning Land Use CIP Capital Reserve Fund at \$1,875. Dave Strauss seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Voting Machine- Previous request \$0. Current request \$3,500.

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The town moderator has been to seminars on automated voting machines. Volunteers for counting are becoming increasingly hard to come by. Questions about the cost, maintenance, certification and accuracy were raised that could not be answered. The BC tabled the request until 12/17/19 when more information could be received.

4194 Municipal Buildings

Current budget \$74,000. Budget request \$74,000.

Tim Eldridge made a motion to fund the budget request at \$74,000. Dave Strauss seconded the motion. The vote was 7-0 in favor of the motion. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Leo Racine- Yea., Eldridge- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Augenti- Yea, Hart- Yea.

Next Meeting Date

The Budget Committee has a budget review meeting set for December 17 at 6:30pm.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Tim Eldridge to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Tom Hart. The vote was unanimous in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00pm.