

FY2019 DANVILLE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Minutes of our October 16, 2018 meeting

BudCom Chairman Jeff Steenson called this meeting of the FY2019 Danville Budget Committee to order at 7:35PM, with the following members present:

Kathy Beattie	Excused	George Manos	Present
Tom Billbrough **	Present	John Russo	Excused
Tara Burkhart	Present	Jeff Steenson *	Present
Dave Knight ***	Present	Brenda Whitehouse	Present
Ed Lang	Present	Vacant	

* Chairperson

** Vice Chairperson

*** BOS Representative

Our first order of business was approving the minutes of our meeting from September 4th. Dave made a motion to accept the minutes as written, Tara seconded the motion and the motion passed with all approving, except Tom who abstained. We then agreed to delay discussion of the selectman's warrant article to dissolve the budget committee until the end of the meeting.

We then reviewed the following FY2019 Budgets that were approved by the BoS. After a brief discussion of each, all of the following budgets were approved at the BoS proposed amounts. Please note person making motion and second of that motion in last 2 columns.

Account	Proposed 2019 Dept. Budget	Proposed 2019 BoS Budget	Proposed 2019 BudCom Budget	1st	2nd
4150.20 Auditing, total	\$20,100	\$20,100	\$20,100	Tom	Dave
4319.40 Dams, total	\$134	\$134	\$134	Tom	Ed
4723 Interest on TAN, total	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$1,500	Tom	Brenda
4290.10 Emergency Mngt (Civil Defense), total	\$8,076	\$8,076	\$8,076	Tom	Ed
4411 Health, total	\$27,613	\$27,613	\$27,613	Tom	Dave
4440 Welfare, total	\$66,375	\$66,375	\$66,375	Tom	Dave
4150.10 Trustee of Trust Funds, total	\$2,925	\$2,925	\$2,925	Tom	Dave
4152 Revaluation of Property, total	\$24,500	\$24,500	\$24,500	Tom	Ed
4316.10 Street Lighting, total	\$7,700	\$8,500	\$8,500	Tom	Ed
4130.30 Town Meeting, total	\$1,885	\$1,885	\$1,885	Tom	Ed

We agreed to table discussion of the Treasury Budget 4150.50 until Kathy Beattie could be present to discuss at our next meeting.

We then initiated a conversation regarding the BoS proposed warrant article to eliminate the budget committee. Dave Knight, the Selectmans' Rep to the Budget Committee expressed his feeling, and the majority of the BoS, that the budget committee is a waste of resources. He stated the BudCom is not necessary since the committee does not often make significant changes to the budget versus what the BoS propose. He also felt there are too many meetings that many people who serve on multiple boards, including himself, have to attend which can be a burden.

George disagreed with Dave's sentiments and felt it would put too much power at the discretion of the BoS and asked that we create a statement as a committee disagreeing with the BoS on this warrant article. Tom brought up that in addition to being another set of eyes on all of the town budgets, that the Bud Com has been a significant audit control in the process and has often caught many discrepancies that can happen during a large budgeting process. He also pointed out that this boards' costs are so low they are statistically insignificant when factored against the entirety of the budget. Jeff questioned the timing as to why the BoS wants to do away with the budget committee now when this board has just begun to explore what new and different ways this committee and the Bos might approach the budgeting process to improve it.

We agreed to continue discussion on this topic at a later meeting due to other committee members not being present and the lateness of the hour.

We agreed to meet again on Tuesday, October 30th 2018 at 7:30PM at the Town Hall. We will look to discuss all of the budgets that have been approved by the Bos that have been approved through 10-22-2018. We will also open discussion of the warrant to eliminate the budget committee if we have sufficient time to do so. As always, the public is welcome to attend.

With no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 9:19PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Jeff Steenson
Chairperson