

Minutes Ogunquit Budget Review committee

12/4/2013

Call To Order:

Meeting called to order by Chair Tony Maurno @ 6:31pm.

Roll Call:

Members present: All full members present.

Alternates Bill Sawyer present, Everett Leach not present.

Meeting Minutes Approval:

Motion to approve minutes for 23 Oct. 2013, Rinaldi 1st, Lynch 2nd, Vote 5-0.

Discussions:

With The Town Manager:

The Town Manager gave a brief overview of some of the things that were happening in town and some of the things that he hoped will happen, basically reflecting information shown in the Town managers report to the Select Board.

He also talked about some of the issues that were in the critical letter that the BOS and BRC received concerning some of the Town Managers actions over the past few years. This letter was not signed and therefor a consensus amongst committee members was that the letter was irresponsible and had no credibility. One positive action however was taken by the town as a result of this letter. All town issued credit cards have been collected from Department Heads and the Town Manager and the corresponding accounts have been closed.

With The BOS Representatives (J. Daley and D. Barton) e Process:

Televising the BRC meetings was discussed and the conclusion was that this would improve visibility as to what the BRC is doing, but not necessarily improve the budget process flow. It was decided that certain meetings (when voting etc.) would be televised, however workshop meetings where the committee has open candid discussions on various budget issues would not.

Selectmen Barton felt that there may be a difference of opinion between the BOS, BRC and Town Manager as to how this process is viewed. Committee member Walsh suggested that maybe a procedure as to how this process works from beginning to end, spelling out responsibilities for everyone

involved, be written and incorporated into the Town Charter. This would provide the needed guidelines, in the future, for new BOS, BRC members and Town Managers so that there will be consistency as to how this process is viewed and works.

It was pointed out that well prepared CIP budgets up front is key to making this process flow smoother. Department Heads need to take on more responsibility to see that this happens and the Town Manager is the Gate Keeper to insure that this happens. The BRC would meet when necessary with Department Heads that are having problems understanding what information is needed for preparing CIP Budgets.

Town Manager Fortier says that he is willing to meet anytime when needed and requested with the committee to help with the process.

It was suggested by Selectman Barton that reserve buckets be established for some of the more costly CIP items that we know are going to be needed in the future.

Union Contract Negotiation with Bob Joyner:

Bob was not able to speak in detail pertaining to the negotiations and that they were very difficult with little progress leaving speculation that arbitration may be required at some latter date.

Motion to Adjourn:

8:30 pm Walsh 1st , Joyner 2nd , Vote 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted By:

Ken Walsh