CALL TO ORDER
J. Hyde called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm

ATTENDANCE
Jason Hyde, Chair, Brian Soucy, Chris Morneau, and Rick Ross
E. Axelman arrived virtually at 6:46 pm.
Absent: Adam Gianunzio

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
C. Morneau motioned to approve the minutes of October 29, 2019 as amended.
Seconded by B. Soucy.
Roll Call Vote unanimously in favor.8:0

OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC
No comments

NEW BUSINESS
Municipal Budget Review
Default budget – Wastewater didn’t account for the retirement. One police officer had been removed from the default as a result of the Council cutting it from the budget. When Budget put the police officer back in, the Council should decide to put the police position in default.

Warrant Articles
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING – November 5, 2020

All Warrant Articles were part of the CIP and received approval from the Planning Board.

**Merrimack River Front Trail System Phase III** $329,950
$29,950 out of Capital reserve; $80,000 from a State grant; the remaining $200,000 to be raised by taxes.

J. Hyde asked if the grant required matching funds.

A. Garron: There is $20,000 from the Conservation Fund. There is $336,000 in the Capital Reserve fund.

**Recycling and Transfer Truck** $300,000
From Solid Waste fund and Capital Reserve Fund

**Fire Apparatus** $250,000

**Public Works Vehicle** $200,000

**DPW contract** n/a

**Non-Union wages** n/a

Recycle Front end loader Solid Waste $150,000

**Retirement Expendable Trust fund** - $150,000
New, historically if someone retires it comes from the assigned fund balance. This will be used instead.

C. Soucie: Currently, the larger departments, when they suspect someone is going to retire, place money their budget. That will be removed and be place in a trust which will earn interest.
At the end of the year there is an unassigned fund balance. The auditors look at us at the end of the year and assess if everyone retired, what is the risk. They take a portion of the fund balance and set it aside as assigned fund balance. We have $350,000 in the assigned fund. We decided to just take a portion or $150,000 out of the fund balance and place it in a trust.

**Building Maintenance**
$250,000 for upgrades to the DPW building with a major cost being a sprinkler system.
$200,000 to replace the roof at the Safety Center
$30,000 to upgrade the concession stand at Donati

**Fire Capital Reserve for Air packs tool and equipment** $55,000

**Fire Command Vehicle** $65,000
$50,000 from fund balance and $15,000 from taxes for

**Radio Communication** $50,000

**Drainage Upgrade** $50,000

**Automated Collection** $30,000

**Revaluation** $20,000

**Capital Reserve Park and Rec** $15,000

**Improvement of Conservation Land** $10,000

J. Hyde: The majority of those pass every year. Which are new?

C. Soucie: The Merrimack River, the DPW Truck, the Non union wages and DPW wages, the Front end loader, the Retirement Trust and the Fire Command vehicle.
The new tax impact of the new warrant articles is .11 not including wages.

**Hooksett Sewer Commission**
J. Hyde stated that an email was received from D. Conety stating he was unable to attend and will come with sufficient notice at a later time.
The Committee would like to address the heating system operation, fuel costs, and legal expenses.

**Request Wastewater Superintendent come back the first week of December to address questions from the Committee.**

**School District Budget**
J. Hyde requested if they be receiving the Principals requests.

K. Salvas: Amy received a macro roll up of the requests. There is no paper to provide but I will double check.

K. Salvas: This is a level funded budget. There is an increase in the tech. department. We have added a half time position to make an IT tech full time. There is a new requirement at the State that we must bus the half day kindergarten students. We currently have a pilot full day kindergarten program. That will remain the same with 1 full day kindergarten class and the remainder half days. We are waiting on a tuition number from Pinkerton Academy and we budgeted 5% as an estimate. This is the last year of the full bond payment. Next year will be just interest. NH retirement increased. 17% of our students are on IEP’s. Don’t know what the State average is.

K. Salvas: The hourly rate for Para Professionals was increased. Due to COVID and a shortage of substitute teachers and para professionals in the State we wanted to be competitive in the area.

C. Morneau asked repair and maintenance went up $20,000 on all three buildings.
K. Salvas: There is a significant amount in each building to take care of COVID including additional staff and projects.

J. Sullivan: Page 57- Increase for trash removal and shooter detection system at each school.
K. Salvas: $71,000 for teacher laptops. It was in the plan for one school each year as a refresh and things got derailed. That is to catch up.

J. Hyde: Last year we suggested consolidating copiers and printers for a better rate.

J. Sullivan: That was not discussed during budget review this year.

Retirement increases
14% increase in retirement for non-teachers
21% increase for teachers

J. Hyde asked why there was a line for criminal record checks under School Board Services.

J. Hyde asked about the increase in SAU services.

Public input
No comments

ADJOURNMENT
C. Morneau motioned to adjourn. Seconded by R. Ross.
Roll Call Vote unanimously in favor.

Respectfully submitted

Lee Ann Moynihan