

Hancock Budget Advisory Committee
January 29, 2013
Minutes

Present: Ben Billings, Matthew Hale, Don Klug, Ron Mack, Pat Payne, and Erik Spitzbarth

The meeting was called to order at 6:00.

The first order of business was to meet with Kurt Grasset to discuss the proposed warrant article for installing a pellet boiler system at the town offices.

Kurt explained that the project grew out of a need to replace an aging buried oil tank. Looking at making the change prompted the select board and the Heat committee to look at alternatives to oilfired heating systems. Wood pellets are plentiful, less expensive than oil, and they support the local economy. Replacing the existing buried oil tank, and the current 20-year old oil-fired furnace, with a new more efficient heating system, using pellets, would allow the town to heat the building more efficiently, at a lower cost, with a projected 10-year payback.

The second item up for discussion was the proposed warrant article to raise funds (up to \$85,000) to build an addition at the Transfer Station.

Kurt identified the driving needs behind the addition as; space need to store recyclables so as to make the transfer station a safer, and more efficient, place to work, to be in compliance with DES regulations for storing materials undercover, and as a way to increase revenues from the sale of materials by being able to control the timing of the sale of the commodities (and not be at the mercy of the market).

Transfer Station Addition – The present warrant article amount of \$85,000 is an estimated cost and the entire project will go out as a design/build project, put out to bid by RFP. The \$85,000 is a conservative estimate, with the entire project likely to come in under that

amount.

The committee thanked Kurt for his efforts and for taking the time to meet with the committee.

The committee then looked at all of the proposed warrant articles and discussed the overall costs with an overall sense of the committee that more information is required before making specific recommendations.

At this time all of the proposed warrant articles total over \$280,600 (without the operating budget figured in), and the committee would like to know what amount of those articles will the town propose to bond.

Ron Mack will ask the select board to meet with the HBAC on Tuesday, February 5th, at 6 PM. If they are unable to meet with us on the 5th Ron will ask to be put on the select board's agenda for their meeting on Monday, February 4th.

The next meeting of the HBAC will be on Tuesday, February 5th, at 6 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Hale