Hancock New Hampshire Budget Advisory Committee

2021 Final Report

The Hancock NH Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) was reactivated this year by Town Moderator, Ric Haskins. The BAC is comprised of town residents, appointed by the Town Moderator, and is independent of the Selectboard and town officials. The Hancock BAC is purely an advisory committee per RSA 32:24.

The BAC members began their review in July 2020 and met, as a group, over 17 times over the following months. Two of those meetings were with the Selectboard (10/26/20, 12/14/20). The minutes of each of these meetings are posted on the town website at hancocknh.org.

The BAC reviewed all aspects of the budget, being mindful of the balance required in considering the needs of the town departments, the town employees, and taxpayers, as well as ensuring fiscal responsibility.

Department heads were invited to meet with the BAC to review and offer insights or explanations of their department’s budget or requests. The BAC met with Jonathan Coyne: Town Administrator; Tyler Howe: Maintenance, Highway, and Solid Waste Disposal; Tom Horne: Police; Tom Bates, John Pirkey, Mark Thompson: Fire; Rita Klug: Cemeteries; Jen Booth, Debra Coyne: Beach, Parks, and Recreation; Allison Kerwin, Dave Drasba, Phil Brown: Conservation; Rich Lefebvre, Dave Drasba, Tom Shevenell: Capital Improvements; Tim Theberge, Jim Frederickson: Con-Val SAU.

The BAC would like to acknowledge the time that they took to review and explain their budgets and appreciates the information they provided in addition to their professionalism and collaboration.

This is a final report of recommendations and support/non-support of warrant articles and the overall budget, which will be decided at the February 27 and March 3, with voting on March 9, 2021 Hancock Town Meetings.

After review and discussion, the BAC identified some areas of concern and noted these to the Selectboard. These areas were also of concern to the Selectboard and were addressed. Per Selectboard guidance all departments strove to maintain a zero percent increase.

In addition, attached to this document is a consensus of the current warrant articles to be discussed and voted on at the Hancock Town Meetings noted above. The BAC has indicated in this document whether they recommend, do not recommend, or have no opinion on each article. The full report is attached.

The BAC would like to thank the Selectboard, and all town employees and volunteers, who have assisted the committee in their review of the budget and related financial items. It has been enlightening and an honor to serve the town in this matter.

Respectfully Submitted,

The 2021 Hancock Budget Advisory Committee

Kristin Omlor, Chair
Keith Akerley
Kipp Miller
Harvey Ames, Co-chair
Robert Keil
William F. Ruoff
Hélène Bickford, Secretary
Mark Lombardi
Elisabeth Villaume
Town of Hancock, New Hampshire

Budget Advisory Committee Recommendations on Warrant Articles

February 2, 2021

Article 01: To Choose Town Officers

The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 02: Operating Budget

The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 03: Lease New 22,500 GVW Dump Truck with Plow

The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 04: Purchase & Outfit New Police Vehicle

The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 05: Full Statistical Revaluation

The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 06: Slope Stability Evaluation

The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 07: Bridge Capital Reserve

The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 08: Meetinghouse Capital Reserve

The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 09: Grapevine Community Resource Center

The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.
Article 10: Grapevine Avenue A Program
The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 11: Community Volunteer Transportation Company
The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 12: Acceptance of Dedicated Streets
The Budget Advisory Committee has No Opinion on this article.

Article 13: NH Resolution for Fair Nonpartisan Redistricting
The Budget Advisory Committee has No Opinion on this article.

Article 14: Baseball Special Revenue Fund
The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 15: Highway Special Revenue Fund
The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 16: History Special Revenue Fund
The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 17: Recreation Special Revenue Fund
The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 18: Police Special Revenue Fund
The Budget Advisory Committee Recommends this article.

Article 19: To Accept Town Reports
The Budget Advisory Committee has No Opinion on this article.
Article 20: Transact any other business

The Budget Advisory Committee has No Opinion on this article.