

**PHIPPSBURG BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING NOTES**  
FEBRUARY 26, 2008

The third Budget Committee meeting of the year got underway at 7:00 PM.

Members of the Budget Committee present at the meeting were: Lisa Gurney, Gary Read, Betsey Morse, Proctor Wells, David Barter, and David Percy.

Absent: Dan Coffin

Sue Jones presented the Ambulance budget for the 2009 Fiscal Year. Her overall budget is about the same as last year and her request at Town Meeting will be \$20,500.00. She expects to have a \$10,292.44 carry forward which will give her a total of \$30,792.44 in her operations account. This gives her a little wiggle room if an unexpected expense arises.

The Ambulance Salary Account request is the same amount as last year. There will be no carry forward in this account. Having the on call stipend has worked out well.

It was duly moved and seconded that the Budget Committee recommend an amount of \$20,500.00 for the Ambulance Account and \$38,048.00 for the Ambulance Salary Account. The motion was voted.

Chief Skroski presented the Police requests next. The Police General account will stay pretty much the same as last year with only small increases in the gasoline line item and uniforms. The overall request in the Police Operations Account is \$15,500.00.

It was duly moved and seconded that the Budget Committee recommend an amount of \$15,500.00 for the Police Operations Account. The motion was voted.

The Police Capital Account request was \$5,000.00.

It was duly moved and seconded that the Budget Committee recommend an amount of \$5,000.00 for the Police Capital Account. The motion was voted with one member in opposition.

Mark Alexander presented his Animal Control request next. Mark expects to have a \$1,744.30 carry forward. His request, after the removal of the cell phone line item, was \$5,270.00. This with his carry over will give him a little cushion with which to operate during the coming year.

It was duly moved and seconded that the Budget Committee recommend an amount of \$5,270.00 for the Animal Control Account. The motion was voted.

David Power gave the Harbor Commission 2009 request. The Commission is requesting an amount of \$1,000.00. They have a carry forward from last year and with mooring fees they collect, they should be in good shape.

It was duly moved and seconded that the Budget Committee recommend an amount of \$1,000.00 for the Harbor Commission Account. The motion was voted.

Dick LeMont presented the Shellfish Commission request for 2009. The State Department of Marine Resources does not have the manpower to do the water testing on the clam flats in the New Meadows, so they are asking Phippsburg to do the tests. There is an increase in the wage line of the budget to accommodate this added work. There was objection to the fact that the State was forcing the expense of doing what it should be doing off onto the town. If the flats are not tested, the diggers cannot dig. *(I think this is what we refer to as the proverbial Catch-22 situation.)*

It was duly moved and seconded that the Budget Committee recommend an amount of \$2,500.00 for the Shellfish Account. The motion was voted.

Last but certainly not least, the Community Access Television request was presented. This group is requesting an amount \$10,000.00. They plan to wire the Town Hall conference room for microphones during the coming year and buy a second camera.

It was duly moved and seconded that the Budget Committee recommend an amount of \$10,000.00 for the Community Access Television Account. The motion was voted.

During the past week, members of the Budget Committee have become aware of a letter containing questions for the Committee that was left in the Town Hall. The letter contained questions of the Budget Committee. The answers to most of the questions are easily available in the Town Report. The letter was also unsigned. The feeling of the Budget Committee was that they would be glad to entertain questions from a signed inquiry, but felt that then did not need to answer this particular inquiry.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM

Betsey Morse  
Secretary