

Approved Minutes of the Budget Advisory Committee (BAC)
Temple Municipal Offices
Wed. February 9, 2005

Members present

Steve Andersen
Rae Barnhisel
Brian Kullgren
Mike Darnell

Others present

Tedd Petro (Select Board)
Charlene Eddy (Select Board)

Meeting called to order at 7:05 pm

1. Minutes from January 26, 2005 (Mtg. 15) approved as amended.
2. Andersen reported that the BAC has received a single copy of an updated Budget Worksheet dated 2/9/05 with the following changes:
 - a. Health *Officer* Expenses category and line item had been changed to Health *Office* Expenses.

Darnell requested that the \$6500 expenditure set aside for the Brown Road landfill be moved from the above-listed category and line item to an appropriate category and line item. Andersen consulted the BAC's copy of NH's general accounting codes and reported that #4325 Solid Waste Cleanup with sub code #4325.1 Landfill Covering and Maintenance would be appropriate. The sub code #4325.2 Hazardous Waste Cleanup would have been appropriate for the work conducted at the Chris Weston Conservation site and might also be used. Members agreed that using appropriate accounting codes was preferable than creating an "Office" out of an "Officer" expense category and obscuring fiscal intent. A copy of the accounting code is attached.

- b. Typographical errors in the Comments section had been addressed.
3. Andersen reported that the 2004-2005 meetings of the Capital Improvement Program committee had apparently not been recorded. In addition, meetings of Conservation Commission members in which recent easements were discussed were also apparently not recorded. Members discussed the legal requirement of appointed committees to record their meetings.
4. Members discussed and signed a letter addressed to the Select Board that summarized their issues and concerns going into the Budget Hearing on 2/5/05. Darnell asked for clarification of the Communications line item in the Other Public Safety category. (According to the general accounting codes, #4299 Other Public Safety has a sub code of 4299.1 called Correctional Facilities, partially explaining the appropriate use of the category; a copy of the accounting code is attached.)
5. Andersen discussed his plan to draft an attachment to the Budget Worksheet that would be copied for Town Meeting. His attachment would outline the cents per dollar impact of each proposed monetary warrant article on the tax rate and the estimated total tax effect on a \$300,000 home. He would make no mention of any non-monetary warrant articles. He assured members he would circulate a draft for comments.

6. T. Petro read a copy of the 2005 warrant listing the order of the articles. He reported that the Select Board only voted to recommend/not recommend those articles they were required by law to provide. Barnhisel commended the Select Board for not continuing the tradition of weighing in on articles it was not justified to do so. Additionally, she requested that the Budget Committee be copied on the warrant articles before they go to press given serious omissions and errors that occurred the previous year. All agreed that additional pairs of eyes were helpful.
7. C. Eddy provided estimates of impacts the education-funding plan proposed by Governor John Lynch would have on Temple.
8. Members discussed the idea of spending taxpayer money to mail a March/April edition of the Temple Newsletter. Given that no board of town officials views the edition before mailing, members felt it was not a prudent or legal use of public funds. For similar reasons, members did not feel that submitting a BAC report to the newsletter was in their best interest. C. Eddy disagreed and urged the BAC to continue to utilize the medium.
9. Andersen and Kullgren reported that they both would not be available for the BAC's next meeting on 2/23/05. Darnell and Barnhisel agreed to meet to try to have a quorum.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Rae Barnhisel
March 23, 2005