

-- Approved --
BRUNSWICK TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES
June 11, 2007
Municipal Meeting Facility

Meeting was called to order at 7:15 P.M.

Chair King called the meeting to order and asked for Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilors Present: Chair Joanne T. King, W. David Watson, Jacqueline A. Sartoris, Hallie Daughtry, Jeffrey A. Schneider, Gerald E. Favreau, Ryan E. Ewing, Newell A. Augur, and David C. Webb

Councilors Absent: None

Town Staff Present: Donald Gerrish, Town Manager, Gary Brown, Assistant Town Manager; John Eldridge, Finance Director; Patricia Foley, Executive Administrative Assistant; Jim Ashe, Superintendent of Schools; Clark Labbe, Fire Chief; Craig Worth, Assistant Director, Public Works; Jim Oikle, Business Manager, School Department; Kevin Schofield, Commander, Police Department; Rick Desjardins, Commander, Police Department; and the TV video crew.

Correspondence:

Superintendent Ashe submitted a memo reminding Council of an informational meeting on School Consolidation Plan. Manager Gerrish presented Council members with a Revenue, Expenditure and Tax Comparison report.

(A copy of the memo and report will be attached to the official minutes)

Manager Gerrish advised that this budget was prepared as a result of last Monday's Council meeting, adding a Police Officer, Fire Fighter, Coffin Pond and other changes, resulting in a 2.07% tax increase.

Chair King asked that Councilor Augur take a brief moment to talk about his proposed changes to the budget.

Councilor Augur is asking for a vote to pursue his alternative proposal asking for a 1%-1.5% increase, which would add \$95,000 to schools to cover sports, reading and arts, \$20,000 to library, add a police camera, and put Coffin Pond back in.

Councilor Augur moved, Councilor Sartoris seconded, to approve the alternative proposal for a 1%-1.5% increase. The motion failed with two (2) yeas. Councilor Watson, Councilor Daughtry, Councilor Schneider, Councilor Favreau, Councilor Ewing, Councilor Webb, and Chair King were opposed.

87. The Town Council will consider adopting the 2007-2008 School Budget Articles, and will take any appropriate action.

Article 1. Vocational Region Ten Budget

Councilor Sartoris moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to approve the Maine Vocational Region Ten budget as approved by the Cooperative Board of Maine Vocational Region Ten in the amount of \$1,907,730 with Brunswick's assessment, as part of the total appropriation to the Brunswick School Department, being \$791,076 for operating expenditures and \$-0 for debt service expenditures. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

Article 2. Vocational Region Ten Adult Education Budget

Councilor Schneider moved, Councilor Ewing seconded, to approve the Maine Vocational Region Ten budget for adult education as approved by the Cooperative Board of Maine Vocational Region Ten in the amount of \$51,000 with Brunswick's assessment, as part of the total appropriation to the Brunswick School Department, being \$11,751. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

Article 3. Local Contribution Required under EPS to Receive Full State Dollars

Councilor Favreau moved, Councilor Ewing seconded, as a part of the total amount appropriated to the Brunswick School Department, to raise and appropriate \$13,222,368 for the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act in accordance with the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15688. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

Article 4. State Education Subsidy

Councilor Webb moved, Councilor Favreau seconded, to accept and appropriate, as part of the total amount appropriated to the Brunswick School Department, State Education Subsidy as determined under the Essential Programs and Service Funding Act; and any other applicable law, regulation, or administrative action. The State Subsidy is estimated to be \$14,205,538. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

Article 5. Non-State-Funded Debt Service

Councilor Sartoris moved, Councilor Daughtry seconded, to raise and appropriate the amount of \$258,455 for debt service previously approved by the legislative body

for non-state-funded portions of school construction projects and minor capital projects in addition to the funds appropriated as the local share of the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

Article 6. Additional Local Funds

Councilor Sartoris moved, Councilor Webb seconded, to raise and appropriate funds additional local funds under the provisions of Title 20-A M.R.S.A. Section 15690 in the amount of \$1,683,857 which exceeds the State's Essential Programs and Services Funding model by \$303,210 as part of the total amount appropriated to the Brunswick School Department. The School Board recommends \$1,683,857 for the following reasons: the State EPS allocation in Transportation, Vocational Education, Gifted and Talented Education, and Extra Curricular and Co-Curricular programs are inadequate to fully fund the 2007-08 program approved the school board in the proposed budget. The motion carried with seven (7) yeas. Opposed: Councilor Schneider and Councilor Augur.

Article 7. Other Funds

Councilor Favreau moved, Councilor Daughtry seconded, to accept funds from other sources as estimated below and to appropriate the amount of \$2,058,200 from these sources as part of the total appropriation to the Brunswick School Department.

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Federal | \$ 800,000 |
| School Subsidy | |
| Tuition and other charges | 1,090,000 |
| Miscellaneous | <u>168,200</u> |
| Total Other Funds | \$2,058,200 |

The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

Article 8. Unexpended Balances

Councilor Webb moved, Councilor Augur seconded, to appropriate \$1,200,000 from existing or estimated unexpended balance of the School Department as part of the

total appropriation to the Brunswick School Department. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

Article 9. Kindergarten to Grade 12 Total Budget.

Councilor Sartoris moved, Councilor Webb seconded, to authorize the Brunswick School Department to expend \$32,628,418 for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007 ending June 30, 2008 from the school administrative unit's contribution to the total cost of funding public education from kindergarten to grade 12 as described in the Essential Programs and Services Funding Act, non-state-funded school construction projects, additional local funds for school purposed under the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 20-A, section 15690, unexpended balances, tuition receipts, state subsidy, and other receipts for school purposes. The motion carried with seven (7) yeas. Councilor Schneider and Councilor Augur were opposed.

Article 10. Adult Education

Councilor Augur moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to approve the budget for adult education, to appropriate the amount of \$106,319 as part of the total appropriation to the Brunswick School Department, to accept State funds, estimated to be \$30,000 for this purpose, and to raise the local share of \$76,319. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

Article 11. Other

Councilor Daughtry moved, Councilor Webb seconded, to authorize the School Department to make an application for grants and other revenues as opportunities may become available and to authorize the School Department to accept and expend any grant awards, donations, or other revenues that may be received. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

Councilor Augur wanted it on record that he would have voted for Article 6 and 9 if they were \$64,568 less than number indicated in motion.

88. The Town Council will consider adopting the 2007-2008 Budget Articles for assistance to St. John's School, and will take any appropriate action.

Councilor Webb moved, Councilor Sartoris seconded, to adopt the 2007-2008 Budget Articles for assistance to St. John's School. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

89. The Town Council will consider adopting the 2007-2008 Budget Resolution for the Town, and will take any appropriate action.

Town Council Minutes

June 11, 2007

Page 5

Councilor Sartoris was not in favor of the Fire Substation and now we need additional staff. She will vote to staff the substation but suggests that the Council look at the Police Department and keep that department staffed as requested. She does not want the Town to mistake her support for additional staff as a blanket support.

Councilor Daughtry agrees with Councilor Sartoris and is not in agreement with all aspects of this budget but feels they need to support it as it is. Everyone has had to compromise. While far from perfect, this budget is better than the one presented a few weeks ago. She supports the budget because she feels it is the best we can do this year.

Councilor Ewing supports this budget. While he agrees with Councilor Augur's proposal, he did not vote for it because it was too last minute a change. He apologizes for any remarks he said that may have hurt anyone during the budget process.

Councilor Sartoris moved, Councilor Schneider seconded, to adopt the 2007/2008 Budget Resolution. There was further discussion.

Councilor Augur does not agree with budget and encourages anyone not in agreement to oppose it. He does not feel it would be that hard to get the numbers down to a 1.6% increase. He thinks a new police station is in need, and that there will be a reduction of people living in this town once the base closes.

Councilor Webb echoes Councilor Augur's sentiments. He supports the budget and proposed that Council get involved earlier on in the next years budget process.

Councilor Sartoris feels we need to exceed EPS in transportation, and gifted and talented. She also would like to increase public safety. She complimented Chair King for the time she put into the budget. Councilor Sartoris said we are very blessed to have Manager Gerrish with his experience to guide us through this process.

Councilor Ewing said he will support the budget although he does not feel it is impossible to get to 2%.

Councilor Favreau agrees with Councilor Sartoris and wants to increase public safety. He favors the budget.

Councilor Watson agrees with Councilor Favreau and is not happy with the cuts in the budget to the Police and Fire Department personnel. He is happy with Councilor King's proposal. A Police officer is vital to the community.

Councilor Daughtry agrees to support the budget.

Superintendent Ashe presented Council with a memo regarding a meeting on June 21, 2007, at Crooker Theatre. He feels this meeting would be very important for the Town of Brunswick. He hopes the community participates more in the next budget process to help

Town Council Minutes

June 11, 2007

Page 6

find best way to lower taxes. The municipality needs to present a more understandable budget program.

Chair King supports adding public safety positions. She said that if adding an extra police officer would provide more visibility around the High School area, which citizens have asked for, it will be well worth it. Chair King called for a vote on the motion.

Councilor Sartoris moved, Councilor Schneider seconded to adopt the 2007/2008 Budget Resolution. The motion carried with eight (8) yeas. Councilor Augur was opposed.

(A copy of the budget resolution will be attached to the official minutes.)

90. The Town Council will consider a resolution to authorize the School Department to expend up to \$419,400 more than its 2006-2007 gross budget appropriation for the purpose of reimbursing advances made from the Town to the School Department for the purpose of reimbursing the Town's general fund for advances made to the School Department for an Air Quality Project at the Junior High School, and will take any appropriate action.

Councilor Augur moved, Councilor Sartoris seconded, to consider a resolution to expend up to \$419,400 more than its 2006-2007 gross budget appropriation for the purpose of reimbursing advances made from the Town to the School Department for the purpose of reimbursing the Town's general fund for advances made to the School Department for an Air Quality Project at the Junior High School. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

Manager Gerrish spoke of Pay-per-Bag and funding to be used for the enterprise account for future costs. John Eldridge said that throughout the budget process with discussion of Pay-per-Bag, there was expression to have the money go to landfill. If enterprise fund runs a deficit, funding has to come from someplace.

Chair King asked for discussion. Councilor Sartoris agrees with Manager Gerrish, however, she thinks we should give the public some notice on this. She would like it on agenda as an action item. Chair King will postpone this item until the next meeting.

Manager Gerrish advised that the workshop on the CIP and the year end meeting to finalize expenditures will be held on Monday June 25th at 7:00 P.M.

Councilor Ewing would like to see a finance committee created that could help work with budget and the school department.

Councilor Sartoris would like to have a workshop and special meeting in same night. Manager Gerrish will try to consolidate the meeting.

Town Council Minutes

June 11, 2007

Page 7

Councilor Daughtry supports Chair King in the creation of a Finance Committee who would become involved earlier in the budget process. She wants more control in shaping the budget and to stop raising property taxes. She suggested we purchase a software program to simplify the budget.

91. The Town Council will consider any other matters related to the adoption of the 2007-2008 Budget, and will take any appropriate action.

Councilor Favreau moved, Councilor Watson seconded, to accept any other matters related to the adoption of the 2007-2008 Budget. The motion carried with nine (9) yeas.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 P.M.

Patricia A Foley
Executive Administrative Assistant
June 22, 2007

July 23, 2007
Date of Approval

Council Chair