

Town of Alfred
Budget Committee Minutes
Monday April 2, 2018

Meeting open at 6:00 p.m. Members present were Joe Olzewski, Harold Metcalfe, Lee Steele, Jon DeFrance, Priscilla Blanchette, & Fred Holt. Selectman Tony Palminteri was present as a member of the public.

Prior to the meeting several members of the committee toured the Old Jail on Court Street.

At 6:00 Parks & Recreation Co-Chair Dean Currier presented the budget request for Parks & Rec. Several questions were asked pertaining to any new programs the committee was planning and the availability of volunteers to assist with current and future programs. Discussion took place as to the cracks in the tennis and basketball courts. The condition of the fields and who is using them was discussed. Currier indicated that some of the other organizations that use the fields have committed to providing materials and labor to help maintain them.

Discussion on the upcoming referendum vote on the purchase and renovation of the Old Jail took place. Holt showed the individual floor plans of each level and the anticipated usage of each.

Ross Corner Fire Co. request of 10,120.00 was discussed. As the population difference in two of the three supporting Towns varies significantly from the third a suggestion was made that in the future the budget requests be made on a per capita basis rather than an even one-third split between the Towns.

The Alfred Water District request of 150,041.00 which includes a 15% increase effective July 1, 2018 was discussed. Several comments were made as to the lack of any control from the Town's perspective in rate increases both to the Town and its' residents.

The following requests were reviewed individually and voted on.

<u>Article</u>	<u>Request</u>	<u>Motion</u>	<u>Second</u>	<u>Vote</u>
Parks & Rec	17,698.00	DeFrance 14,698.00	Steele	6-0-0-0
Ross Corner Fire	10,120.00	Steele 10,120.00	Metcalfe	6-0-0-0
Alfred Water	150,041.00	Metcalfe 130,470.00	DeFrance	4-2-0-0

(No Olzewski & Holt)

Discussion concerning the Salary budget took place as to any increase and what it should be based upon when this is brought to the committee.

As a follow-up to last week's meeting the need for an incentive to retain employees was discussed. Suggestions included 401K's, SEP agreements, ME State Retirement etc. Holt will do some research and bring to the committee for a recommendation to the Selectmen.

Metcalfe told the committee that he will be unavailable from April 14 – April 24.

Next meeting will be Monday April 9th 6:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

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