

MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT BUDGET MEETING January 14, 2013

Attendance:

Bob Long, Robert Roudebush, Dan Brady, Amy Baker (District Accountant), Don Drew and Kristi Garofalo

Don Drew and Kristi Garofalo are advisory members only, not committee members.

Water Budget Overview:

The Water Department budget was reviewed by line item. The following were noted:

Legal Expense: Don Drew said line probably won't be used unless problem arises such a running a line across a homeowner's property. Bob Long suggested reducing line to \$750 and committee agreed.

Transfer Out - Capital Reserve: Dan Brady asked if money in the old reserve funds with restrictions could be transferred to the new reserve fund without restrictions that will hopefully be created by warrant article. Bob Long said he was not uncomfortable with the restrictions on the older account because that money was designed to go toward major projects if needed. Committee agreed on warrant article for \$9,000 to establish new reserve fund with no restrictions and leave existing reserve funds unchanged.

Water Rental(Consumption): Stand By Fee line item combined with Water Rental line item for simplicity at Amy Baker's recommendation. Dan Brady suggested changing the line titles Water Rental and Water Rental Bath in Revenues to Water Consumption and Water Consumption Bath, and changing Water Rental in Expenditures to Water Consumption. The committee agreed and on Robert Roudebush's suggestion increased the new Water Consumption line to \$50,000 due to anticipated cost increases from Woodsville Water & Light.

Facility Maintenance, Shop Supplies, and Building Maintenance/Repair: Lines were combined into one line for simplicity at Amy Baker's recommendation. The committee agreed to rename the newly combined line as Facility Operations.

Water Break/Freeze: Amount decreased to \$8000 from \$11,000 in previous year due to milder weather in recent years. Amy Baker noted reserve fund money can be used if needed. Bob Long said he was comfortable with \$8000 as presented and committee agreed.

Equipment Purchase and Equipment Maintenance: Lines were combined for simplicity at Amy Baker's recommendation. Don Drew suggested lowering combined amount to \$8000 because he has found a vendor for pumps at a lower price and has some replacement items on hand.

Other Discussion:

Committee membership: Dan Brady asked for an announcement to be made at the March 16th Annual Meeting that budget committee membership is open to both full and part time residents.

Commissioner stipend: Dan Brady suggested putting the issue of commissioner salary and stipend reduction into the annual meeting agenda. Amy Baker said the issue could be brought up during discussion of the first warrant article because it is in the budget and any line item of the budget can be discussed. Robert Roudebush said as the only official members of the budget committee he and Dan Brady agree the budget committee does not recommend a reduction in the commissioners' salary.

Scholarship Award: Dan Brady explained the district notifies the high school guidance department of the MLD scholarship availability and the guidance department selects the student recipient. MLD prepares an award letter to be read at the graduation exercises and the student receives a one-time check upon presenting proof of enrollment at an accredited institution of higher learning. The committee recommended raising the amount of the award from \$500 to \$750.

State Group Purchasing: Dan Brady contacted Bob Stowell, Administrator of Purchases and Property at (603)271-3606 regarding the State of New Hampshire Group Purchasing Operation (GPO). Stowell said NH has hundreds of contracts for goods and services and they can be found at the www.nh.gov website. Bob Long and Kristi Garofalo will work on making use of the state contracts for district purchases.

The Commissioner's Budget Hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, February 12 at 6:00 pm after the Commissioner's regular monthly meeting.

Respectfully submitted by
Kristi Garofalo