



# TOWN OF HAMPSTEAD

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## BUDGET COMMITTEE

### MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

June 11, 2015

Approved September 28, 2015

**PRESENT:** Emily Reschberger, John Skidmore, Bill Keating, Jorge Mesa-Tejada

**ABSENT:** Steve Londrigan

**VISITORS:** Penny Williams, Al Cipriano

The meeting was called to order by chairman, Jorge Mesa-Tejada at 7:01 PM in the Selectmen's Office, Hampstead Town Hall.

**1. Call to Order; Pledge of Allegiance**

Bill Keating led the Pledge of Allegiance

**2. Visitors Comments**

Emily introduced Al Cipriano, the newest member of the Library Board of Trustees. Al told the committee that he had been a resident of Hampstead for 35 years and always interested in the Library, ergo, his desire in being a Trustee. He indicated that he had an MBA and gave a brief description of his 42-year career as a federal employee.

**3. Code of Ethics Ordinance Acknowledgement Sheet**

Jorge distributed the Acknowledgement Sheet that must be signed by everyone and returned to the Selectmen's Office.

**4. Approval of Minutes: May 14, 2015**

**Motion:** Emily moved to approve the minutes of May 14, 2015 as written; John seconded.

**VOTE: YES 4; NO 0; ABSTAIN 0**

**5. Discussion: Review topics for meeting with School Board**

Jorge reviewed the topics to be discussed with School Board:

- Bond issue recap (capacity expansion in view of declining demand?)
- Impact of Chrome Book deployment: how will it improve efficiency of educational process (large class sizes –more students/less teacher load?)
- Benefits buffer – explain statistical probability of every employee signing up for full benefits
- Access Road proposal: how is it going to be furthered (via budget or warrant article?)
- Physical Plant maintenance (must be on-going regardless of other initiatives)
- Food account deficit: collecting overdue accounts
- Separating from SAU

He asked the members to email any other topics/ideas that should be included. Also, he requested that all members be present on the day of the presentation so that it could not be said that "those are just Jorge's ideas."

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**6. Informational: Town and School Charts of Accounts/Budgets**

Jorge reviewed the Chart of Accounts schema for the School and Town for the benefit of the two new members.

Then, he applied that information in the context of the current budgets.

Jorge also expressed the desire to have the School Budget show the Default amounts in the same fashion as the Town's Budget, that is, in each account line for ease of understanding as to how it was computed.

Additional handouts:

Jorge handed out a copy of the Hampstead Support Personnel Association (HSPA) contract which is up for negotiations this year. He encouraged the members to become familiar with the language and structure to simplify discussions later in the year when it is up for adoption. He reminded the members that the Teachers' contract will be up for renewal in 2016.

The other handout was the latest edition of the Attorney General's Memorandum on NH's Right-To-Know Law, RSA91-A, dated March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015. It is the most comprehensive memorandum to date.

Jorge remarked that, in his opinion, RSA91-A is the most violated statute in New Hampshire. Thus, he encouraged everyone to become familiar with this easy-to-digest memorandum.

**7. Members comments**

**Emily:** none--plans to use the summer to come up to speed on school and town budgetary matters.

**Bill:** wanted to compare town and school budgets over the last five years but had no kept the Town Reports. He was directed to find the info in the library.

**John:** none.

**Jorge:** he's working on the presentation for the School Board consisting of charts and data to support the points discussed in item 5 above.

**8. Next meeting agenda items**

Review School Board reaction to BudCom presentation

Review HSPA contract 2012-2016

**9. Schedule next meeting date**

Members agreed that September 10<sup>th</sup> would be appropriate since nothing was happening between now and that date.

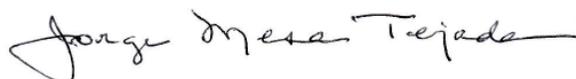
**10. Visitors Comments**

None.

**11. Adjournment**

On a motion by Bill, seconded by Emily, the meeting adjourned at 7:32 PM

For the Committee,



Jorge Mesa-Tejada, chairman