# Grafton Budget Committee

#  Meeting Minutes

#  April 11, 2022

**Members present**: Ed Grinley (Chair), Pam Curran, Catherine Mulholland, Sandy Griffin and Cindy Kudlik (Select Board ex-officio)

**Also present**: Paul Vogt, Denise Smith and Maureen O’Reilly

Meeting called to order by Ed Grinley at 18:00.

Ed distributed copies of the department transaction details for the first quarter of the year, along with information regarding the revolving accounts for the Ambulance and Rec Committee, a worksheet showing transactions for the Library Accounts and an email from Terry Knowles in 2015 regarding Gross Basis budgeting. Ed asked that everyone look over the budget transaction details and bring up any questions they have.

Some questions/concerns raised were:

* The Ambulance Department should just have one mechanic shop working on the Ambulance to keep costs down and have one place that knows our vehicles.
* Sources of payments made to the Ambulance revolving account.
* The Highway Department appears to be getting heating fuel from Evans but Ed believes there is a fixed price agreement with Innov8v at a lower rate.
* Ed stated that the Road Agent should be paid as a salaried employee, not hourly, per a warrant article from the 1980s.
* Police Chief wages were also set by town warrant in the early 2000s. Further investigation into both will be made.
* How much money is left from the Fire Department heating system insurance settlement and when is it encumbered until?
* Need to address town office building needs.
* The legal expenses in the Selectmen’s budget incurred so far is concerning.
* Some line items in the Police Department budget are grossly overspent, but overall, the total budget spending is in line.

Sandy asked that we receive the handouts for future meetings before the meetings so we all have time to look them over and can come to the table with questions we’ve had time to consider.

Pam would like a breakdown of all spending and receivables for revolving accounts and the general ledger. There was some discussion as to the feasibility of gathering so much information each quarter when it is all in the town annual report. The Treasurer will be asked if she can provide revolving account transaction details.

Ed asked for nominations for Chair. Sandy nominated Ed; Pam seconded. Motion passed.

Sandy asked if we could schedule the July meeting. It will be on Monday, July 18th at 6pm at the Town Hall.

Ed also mentioned that he will be asking Terry Knowles’ assistant to come to town and meet with the Library and Cemetery Trustees along with the Budget Committee and Board of Selectmen to clear up confusion regarding Gross Basis Budgeting.

Catherine moved to adjourn the meeting at 19:09; Cindy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Cindy Kudlik