

Approved as written at the Bristol Budget Committee on 12/12/11

**BRISTOL BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**December 5, 2011**

**Present:**

Shaun Lagueux-Chairman, Paul Simard-Vice Chairman, Barbara Greenwood, Jon Thouin, Tom Keegan, Selectman Jeff Shackett, Dorcas Gordon, Ron Preble, Wendy Costigan, Mark Chevalier, Dan Arseneau, Dave Carr, Ashley Dolloff

**Others Present:**

Town Administrator Michael Capone; Carly Rhodes, Community Outreach coordinator for Tri-County Action; Roberta Berner, Executive Director for Grafton County Senior Citizens; Lisa Farmer, Executive Director for Voices Against Violence; Kristen Welch, Director of Development for Genesis; Wendy Williams, Advancement Coordinator for CADY; Cathy Bentwood, Director for Bridge House Shelter; Kimon Koulet Director of Lakes Region Planning Commission; Max Stamp, Chairman of PRLAC; Sandy Bodie, Child and Family Services

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Lagueux called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**Review of Minutes:**

Chairman Lagueux asked the members to review of the minutes from the November 21, 2011 meeting. Vice-Chairman Simard made a motion to accept the minutes as written and was seconded by Ms Greenwood. The motion to accept the minutes as printed passed with a vote of 12 in favor and 1 abstention.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS in attendance

Chairman Lagueux thanked the representatives for coming to the meeting and for the work each organization provides.

**Pemi River Local Advisory Committee: Requesting \$200.00**

Mr. Max Stamp, Chairman of PRLAC began his presentation by giving a brief review of work the committee does. Their work is to protect the water resources by water testing the river water and monitoring the shore land buffer established by the Legislature. He stated they work with the Lakes Region Planning Services.

Chairman Lagueux asked how many towns were contacted and at what amount were they asked to contribute. Mr. Stamp replied that all the towns from Thornton to Hill were asked for the same fixed rate of \$200.00.

Mr. Chevalier asked what sort of budget did the committee have. Mr. Stamp stated that their budget is \$1200 to \$1500 annually. The majority of the expense is to support the services provided by the Lakes Region Planning and to cover the costs of the water testing lab fees.

**Tri-County CAP: Requesting \$6,880**

Ms Carly Rhodes the Community Outreach Coordinator stated that this organization works to provide fuel, electric and other similar types of assistance to the qualifying families in 13 towns. Two full-time staff members and one seasonal employee do this work. They provided the Town of Bristol with more than \$200,000 last year.

Vice Chairman Simard asked if the fuel assistance was funded. Ms Rhodes stated that it was funded and they expect the funds to become available within the next week. However, the families who are in the lower income level have received fuel assistance and did not have to wait for the funds to become available. Vice Chairman asked what the Town's exposure was regarding families that needed assistance but were unable to get help from CAP. Ms Rhodes explained that if they could not expend the funds then it would be the Town's responsibility to provide the help they needed.

Mr. Chevalier asked for a breakdown of last year's expenditures of the towns they service. Ms Rhodes agreed to send the information Kelly LaCasse.

**Grafton County Senior Citizens: Requesting \$8000.00**

Roberta Berner, Executive Director of Grafton County Senior Services gave a brief introduction explaining they provide the meals on wheels program and give transportation for our senior citizens, and social workers who help with Medicare and Medicaid issues. She introduced Diane Divine who is the local Director. Ms Divine spoke of the volunteers their important role in fundraising, and helps others by providing mittens for school children or newborn baby hats for hospitals. Mr. Mike McKinney is a volunteer driver for the Bristol area and spoke of the significance of services provided. The transportation that is provided to the senior citizens is the only way some of them can get to the doctor's or to the stores for essential items.

**Voices against Violence: Requesting \$3000.00**

Lisa Farmer, Executive Director explained that the Voices against Violence provide shelter, food and other necessities to anyone who has been abused and seeks their help. They offer a 24-hour hot line and work closely with the local hospitals and Police Departments. They also provide support through the court system helping the individual understand the process and what is or is not required of them. Voices against Violence also have an outreach and educate program in the local schools.

Mr. Carr asked how many towns contribute to this organization. Ms Farmer stated that 16 of the 18 towns provide assistance.

Chairman Lagueux stated that the letter submitted by Ms Farmer would be sent to all the committee members.

**Bridge House Shelter: Requesting \$1500.00**

Cathy Bentwood, Director of Bridge House has an operating budget of approximately \$260,000 and revenues of about \$220,000. They need to fundraise the \$40,000 difference. They are experiencing funding cut backs from HUD and the State. Ms Bentwood noted that financial assistance is available for any qualifying military person from the VA and other sources.

**CADY: Requesting \$2000.00**

Wendy Williams presented the service that CADY provides the community and highlighted one area specifically. Ms Williams stated that when a juvenile is brought before the court one of the first questions asked is; has the case been screened diversion. CADY is the sole provider of a diversion program called the restorative justice program. A first time offender and their family will work with a committee to build a plan to reestablish the youth in the community. Usually an apology is required and some community service and meetings with the committee over a 6 to 9 month period.

Cady also works within the schools by giving Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drug (ATOD) evaluations. The results help determine where help is needed.

Ms William stated they ask about 17 towns to contribute to CADY. Mr. Carr stated that the programs should be in the School budget and not in the Town's. Ms Williams replied that they have not approached the schools for funding they only go to the Town.

Vice Chairman Simard asked how CADY could be interfaced with the CHINS program. Ms. Williams stated that CHINS is for bigger or larger offenses and CADY works with the younger lesser offenses.

**Lakes Region Planning Commission: Requesting \$2891.00**

Mr. Kimon Koulet, Executive Director of the Lakes Region Planning Commission, gave each committee member a handout describing the different programs. He stated that they are very good at obtaining grants and leveraging funding for various needs within the various towns they work with. In the Town of Bristol they are working at creating a digital copy of the wetlands map, the Brownsfield program has helped with the Mica Building and may be of use in two other sites near the Mica Building.

Town Administrator Capone stated that the relationship with this organization is superior for the amount of money we give it. The Lakes Region Planning Commission gives the Town tremendous access for funding.

**Child and Youth Services: Requesting \$550.00**

Sandy Bodie gave a brief summary and stated that they ask for funding to help with specific needs within that specific town.

**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS that did not attend as scheduled:**

**American Red Cross:** Requesting \$1448.00

**Lakes Region Community Services Council**

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Member Comments:**

Mr. Chevalier stated that the breakdown of the property and school tax be displayed at the Town Meeting. He wants the people to see how the school is taking a majority of our tax dollars. Ms Gordon added that it would also show the Town's people that the town portion went down. Mr. Chevalier also asked why the School Budget meetings and School Board meetings were not aired like the various Town's Committee meetings were. It was noted that the School Board meetings are on the website.

Mr. Chevalier continued by stating he received the requested budget information from the Newfound Lakes Region Association. He noted that there is a salary line item of \$141,000. He questioned their need of \$3000 from the Town. Town Administrator Capone stated that he received an email from Rosemary D'Arcy, President of NLRA, asking if this request for the budget is standard practice and is there a reason why it is requested. Mr. Chevalier stated that it is standard procedure and the budget committee should consider these figures when it is time to vote on funding this request. Chairman Lagueux stated that if they request money from the Town, the Town could request a copy of their budget. Ms Gordon asked why this organization was singled out. Mr. Chevalier noted that he has requested the budget and other financial breakdowns from a few other organizations so this group is not singled out.

Mr. Chevalier made a motion to request more detailed information from the NLRA. This passed with 8 in favor, 3 opposed, and 1 abstention. (One member had left the room temporarily)

Mr. Carr gave a handout showing a help wanted ad from another town similar to ours. In a prior handout the operating budget was much lower than ours in this handout the operating budget was much higher. He stated that it shows each town is unique.

Administrator Comments:

Town Administrator Capone gave every member the handout showing the breakdown of new equipment from Police Chief Lewis. This is in response to Mr. Carr's request.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be December 12 at 7:00 pm at the Town Office Building. The Committee will meet with the Water/Wastewater Department.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Vice Chairman Simard made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Chevalier. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Emily Hemingway  
Recording Secretary