

APPROVED

Budget Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2014

Present:

Chair- Kerrin Rounds, Dave Carr, Paul Manganiello, Carol Huber, William Cote, Don Milbrand, Tom Keegan, Ron Preble, Ernie Richards, Shaun Lagueux, Kevin McCaffrie.

Absent: Barbara Greenwood and Ashley Dolloff.

Others Present:

Michael Capone- Town Administrator

Call to Order:

Committee Chair Kerrin Rounds called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Review of Minutes:

Kerrin Rounds asked the committee to review the minutes from December 1, 2014. Paul Manganiello made a motion to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Don Milbrand. The motion carried with all in favor.

Correspondence: None

Old Business: None

New Business:

NANA: Pat Wentworth, Executive Director, presented. The funding that NANA received from towns supports free care and clinics. Out of 7,048 town funded visits, 3,349 visits were to Bristol clients. NANA became hospice certified this year and now offers this service to its clients. There were 9 Bristol hospice clients that NANA will not get reimbursed for in the amount of \$80,880. Non-billable visits to Bristol clients amounted to \$12,345. There was \$1,648 in straight free care. There was a total of \$94,875 in total free care to Bristol clients. NANA pursues grants and does fundraising along with the town funding. Carol Huber asked if people with no insurance are billed directly. Ms. Wentworth replied that Medicaid rules require clients to be billed. NANA has a sliding fee scale that is used.

American Red Cross: No one representing.

Tri-County CAP: Heidi Wells, community contact coordinator, presented. Tri-County CAP provides direct financial help with fuel assistance, weatherization, electrical assistance, and a utility disconnect program. The Ashland office serves 13 different towns. As of September 2014, Bristol households received \$451,497.84 in benefits. This figure is based on the agencies fiscal year. Shaun Lagueux commented that this funding is well worth what the Town invests because it saves so much on Town resources.

Grafton County Senior Citizens Council: Roberta Berner presented with Gail Shaw. There were 195 Bristol residents served. Services include Meals on Wheels, transportation, and a meal every Tuesday afternoon at the Bristol United Church of Christ. There are many seniors who receive no visitors during the week and these services keep them connected and provide weekly checks on their wellbeing. Carol

Huber asked if there is a newsletter and web site. Ms. Berner replied that the web site is www.gcsc.org and the monthly newsletter can be found on that site. Kevin McCaffrie asked on average how many are served at the Tuesday lunch. Ms. Berner replied that 45-50 seniors are served at the Tuesday lunch and 18-22 meals are delivered per day.

Voices Against Violence: Heather Huggins, advocate and volunteer, presented. Voices Against Violence works with victims of domestic and sexual abuse. There were 683 adult and child victims seen, of those 145 contacts (55 hours) were with Bristol residents. The \$3,000 request to the Town provides half the cost of services to Bristol residents. Carol Huber asked how many communities and towns provide support. Ms. Huggins replied that 17 towns provide funding. Shaun Lagueux commented that \$3,000 was requested last year too, but only \$1,000 was approved by the Budget Committee. Ernie Richards asked if all 17 communities contribute. Ms. Huggins replied that a follow up figure will be provided to the committee.

CADY: Jay Apicelli, Restorative Justice coordinator, presented. Restorative Justice is a program that gives kids a chance to fix legal mistakes they have made by working with the victims of their crimes. The program has worked with 10 Bristol kids and currently 3 are in the program. The Town saves approximately \$1,300 for every kid that goes through the program instead of taking them to court. The \$2,000 request to the Town is help fill the program budget gap. The Restorative Justice program has a budget of \$57,000 and the County pays \$40,000. Paul Manganiello asked if the County was cutting back on funding. Mr. Apicelli replied that the program does charge clients on a sliding fee scale ranging from \$50 to \$250. Shaun Lagueux asked if the \$57,000 budget was all of CADY or just the Restorative Justice program. Mr. Apicelli replied that the \$57,000 is for Restorative Justice and the LAUNCH program. Carol Huber asked how many towns are represented. Mr. Apicelli replied that all 32 towns in Grafton County are represented.

Genesis: Kristen Welch presented. Genesis is a community mental health services agency that serves 3,642 people in Belknap and southern Grafton counties. The agency is not funded by the state. 78% of the funds come from Medicaid and 24 towns are asked to contribute to community emergency services. A formula based on population is used to derive the requested funding amount. Of the 125 Bristol residents who are clients, 28 sought emergency services. The total amount of charity care to Bristol residents is \$32,892. Ms. Welch commented that the amount requested last year was not included in the budget. Kevin McCaffrie replied that last year the Budget Committee did not receive all the information that was requested from Genesis and that played a role in the decision not to fund.

PRLAC: Max Stamp presented and distributed the Annual Report and water quality results for 2013. PRLAC is requesting \$250 of funding from the Town. PRLAC has been serving 8 towns for the past 13 years. Most of the budget goes to Lakes Region Planning Commission to pay for administrative and technical services. Shaun Lagueux asked if the Pemi River is covered under the Shoreland Protection Act. Mr. Stamp replied that it has been since 2008. Kerrin Rounds commented that DOT is looking to be more conscientious with the use of salt on the roads. Mr. Stamp replied that Plymouth and Ashland's drinking water is affected by the use of salt and that DOT is looking at the salt settings in certain areas affected. Kerrin Rounds asked about the extra \$50 requested last year. Mr. Stamp replied that the money was used for an increased frequency of E.coli testing.

Member Comments: None

Select Board Comments:

Shaun Lagueux informed the committee that the finalized budget will be presented by members of the Select Board next Monday.

Administrator's Report: None

Adjournment:

Kevin McCaffrie made a motion to adjourn, seconded by William Cote, passed with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Costigan, Secretary