

**Barre Town Budget Committee Meeting**  
**Proposed Budget for Fiscal Year 2019 - 2020**  
**March 12, 2019**  
**AGENDA**

1. Call to order.....6:00 p.m.
2. Consider approving agenda
3. Consider approving March 5, 2019 meeting minutes
4. Presentation by and discussion with:
  - a) Barre Area Development
  - b) Aldrich Public Library
5. Questions about budgets covered so far.
6. Review Police Department budget and time permitting other General Fund budgets.
7. Public Comment 7:50 p.m.
8. Adjourn. 7:55 p.m.

**Minutes for March 12, 2019**

The duly warned meeting of the Barre Town Budget Review Committee for the proposed 2019-2020 fiscal year budget was held March 12, 2019 at the Barre Town Municipal Building, Emergency Operation Center, Lower Websterville at 6:00 p.m.

The following members were in attendance: W. John “Jack” Mitchell, Tom White, Paul White, Bob Nelson (arrived at 6:35 p.m.), Norma Malone, Justin Bolduc, Cedric Sanborn, Andrew McAvoy, Phil Cecchini, and Alan Garceau.

Also in attendance were: Town Manager Carl Rogers, Asst. Town Manager Elaine Wang, Town Clerk Donna J. Kelty, Police Chief William Dodge (arrived at 6:40 p.m.), Joel Schwartz (Barre Area Development), Aldrich Library Representatives Nancy Pope and Lauren Polk.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Norma Malone called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

*On a motion by Paul White, and seconded by Cedric Sanborn, the Budget Committee voted to approve the agenda. Bob Nelson was not present for the vote.*

**MINUTE APPROVAL**

*On a motion by Cedric Sanborn, seconded by Paul White, the Budget Committee voted unanimously to approve the March 5, 2019 meeting minutes with minor spelling and grammatical corrections. Bob Nelson was not present for the vote.*

**PRESENTATIONS WITH AGENCIES IN BUDGET**

Barre Area Development: Executive Director Joel Schwartz was present. In the past BAD has always been paid by the municipalities on a reimbursement basis. However, with the new media program every penny will be spent. Last year Barre Town allocated \$45,000. Based on current numbers the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019 is expecting a deficit of \$54,800.

Mr. Schwartz focused on the implementation of the new marketing program to include a new website which is still under development. He has been working on the existing website to remove old data and fix some link issues. Print media versus digital media was discussed. Currently there is no “exact” date to unveil the new website. This project is being done in phases. Phase one was the study, phase 2 is the website development, phase 3 is the launch (requiring another \$60,000 - \$100,000) and phase 4 is to go “big time media.”

An unapproved BAD proposed budget was provided to the Board with a brief discussion.

**BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING OF March 12, 2019 continued:**

Tom White expressed concern in this existing website is a reflection of the area. He noted this site was to be updated over a year ago and is just being looked at now.

Aldrich Public Library: Nancy Pope and Lauren Polk were present. Handouts were given to the Committee (Budget for last 3 years and a power point presentation). Two-thirds of annual revenue comes from Barre City and Barre Town. Barre City for FY 19-20 is giving \$221,500 (an increase from the \$211,000 in the current year).

Between the two libraries (main one in the City and the branch in East Barre) they are open 54 hours per week. The presentation spoke to the number of employees, changes in their bookkeeping and payroll processing, and union contract obligations.

Tom White thanked the Library for the great strides they have made in reporting to this Committee and look forward to the many more that are forthcoming. Mitchell concurred.

**QUESTIONS - NONE**

**GENERAL FUND CONTINUED**

Police Department: Police Chief Dodge was present. Manager Rogers began the Department review of expenses (011-421). Points of interest included wages, containment of overtime, concession made by the Police Union contract to improve wages and obtain a better retirement plan, the great on-going training program for officers, taser replacement plan, 8 new Axon body cameras, dispatch cost (department pays 40% of total) and the money in Miscellaneous (990 account) is for the towing of seized or abandoned vehicles.

The Town could face purchasing a new finger print machine within the next couple of years. Dodge stated he was recently told our existing machine may not be supported. Fixes can be expensive. A new machine could cost as much as \$35,000 and this is a mandatory piece of equipment. Committee consensus is to put the item on the white board for further conversation.

**PUBLIC COMMENT - None**

**HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT**

Reminder: If you have questions on anything discussed during this meeting or on what you review that cannot wait until the next meeting be sure to contact the Town Manager. The Budget Tour will be this Saturday, March 16, 2019, 8:30 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING**

The Budget Committee meeting will reconvene on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the Emergency Operation Center, Municipal Building in Lower Websterville.

**ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING**

*On a motion by Cedric Sanborn, seconded by Andrew MacAvoy, the Budget Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. to the next meeting on Tuesday, March 26, 2019.*

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*Town Clerk-Treasurer Donna J. Kelty*