



## **BUDGET COMMITTEE - 2018**

### **MINUTES**

**January 23, 2018, 6:30 pm – Town Office**

Present: Committee Members: Terry McCabe (chair); Sara MacCorkle, Kristine Poland, Sandee Brackett, Rob Davison, Kenneth Frederic, John Freeman, Chuck Hanson, Paul Leeman III, and J.W. Oliver. Selectmen: Chad Hanna, Terry Lowd, Paul Yates. Town Administrator: Chris Hall, and Deputy Treasurer, Lisa Peters. Representatives of Non-Profits: Carol Jaeger, Michael Hope, Larry Holmes, Sam Schaab, Abby Ingraham, Jessica Tysen, Brittany Cicchetti, Jim Hatch, George Keyes, and Herb Nixon.

Chair McCabe opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. She explained to members of the public present that this meeting is to hear presentations from organizations that have petitioned for funding from the Town on the 2018 Warrant. Organizations would be heard in alphabetical order.

1. Bristol Area Library, requesting \$14,500, was represented by the Library's Board President Carol Jaeger. She reported that there were 1,519 members of the Library at the end of 2017. She stated that non-members were welcome as well, they just could not take out books. The library is used for many services including genealogy research, organizational meetings, book lending and free Wi-Fi as well as many other benefits to the community. In response to questions regarding the library's assets, the Board President stated that part of the assets are from an endowment, some of which have been invested. She stated the ultimate goal of the library is to be self-sufficient.
2. Eldercare Network, requesting \$7,500, was represented by Board member and volunteer Michael Hope. He presented the Network's financials and spoke about the need of funds for repairs needed for the various Green locations. Their goal is to be able to provide a salary increase to the staff, which have only had one increase in 10 years. The lower salary is responsible for the shortage of workers, some of which leave for higher paying positions elsewhere. In addition, for the Round Pond Green, they have envisioned adding a second floor to the existing building to be used for low income apartments for families.

3. Healthy Kids, requesting \$1200, was represented by volunteer Larry Holmes, who spoke about the different programs the organization has available. The programs include child abuse prevention, parenting classes, toy drives, and playgroups in Damariscotta, Boothbay and Waldoboro. There was a question regarding the omission of the 2017 financials. Only the 2015-2016 were presented.
4. LifeFlight, requesting \$1,500 is a first time requestor. Representing LifeFlight, Sam Schaab explained the role of the company in the state. Their purpose is to provide critical medical transport for people in need of transport. They are essentially flying hospitals, capable of not only transport, but offering critical medical treatment as well. In 2017, LifeFlight transported patients from 124 different towns in Maine, including 1 in Bristol. Overall, since its inception in 1998, 28 Bristol citizens have been transported via LifeFlight. The organization has for equipment three helicopters as well as one single engine aircraft. In those cases where weather prevents transport by flight, the company has a ground ambulance. They service the entire state and work with EMS, hospitals and Fire/Rescue providers all over Maine. There was a question posed by one of the members regarding funding from the state, to which Mr. Schaab stated they did not receive any.
5. Lincoln County Television, requesting \$9,752, was represented by its new Executive Director, Abby Ingraham. Ms. Ingraham replaces the previous Executive Director, Mary Ellen Crowley, who passed away on Sunday January 21<sup>st</sup> after an illness that forced her to step down. Ms. Ingraham stated that she is committed to the goals that LCTV has worked toward, and continues to create relationships with other towns to provide coverage of their town meetings as well. As far as Bristol is concerned, LCTV provides extensive coverage of many activities in town including but not limited to: Selectmen Meetings, Dam Committee meetings, Lincoln Academy basketball games and concerts at BCS. She stated that in the future, items covered would be restoration of the Liberty Pole and segments on small farms in Bristol. In response to a question regarding the funding formula, Ms. Ingraham stated the same formula was used as in the past due to the lack of new current subscriber numbers for Spectrum. It was also mentioned that Spectrum had moved LCTV from Channel 7 to Channel 1301, however most of the audience was notified of this ahead of time, lessening the impact.
6. Midcoast Maine Community Action, requesting \$1,680, was represented by Jessica Tysen, Executive Director. MMCA is one of ten Community Action Agencies in Maine, and serves low-income families in towns in Lincoln and Sagadahoc counties. MMCA provides programs such as Head Start, WIC, nutrition and counseling programs for families to name a few. The organization administers funds for the Salvation Army as well for

assistance with fuel and rent for low income citizens. Although the presentation did not include the financial information, the Executive Director stated she would rectify this omission by making sure the financial information will be emailed to the contact person at the Town Office.

7. New Hope for Women, requesting \$995, was represented by Brittany Ciccketti. New Hope provides refuge and support services for abused women, including six transitional housing units for two-year programs aiming at self-sufficiency; volunteer safe-house homes for emergency situations; a 24 hour Crisis Hotline and awareness programs in schools. In addition, the organization offers court advocacy programs and support groups throughout Lincoln, Knox, and Sagadahoc and Waldo counties. In Bristol, last year saw New Hope provide 12 hours of direct service to 10 clients; and 28.75 hours of youth education. A question regarding the 2017 financial information was raised, to which Ms. Ciccketti stated they had not received that information back yet.
8. Pemaquid Watershed Association, requesting \$1,500 was represented by Jim Hatch. Mr. Hatch spoke about the many programs PWA offers for maintaining and protecting our natural resources. Unlike other non-profits, PWA specifically offers services to Bristol, including maintaining the 8 trails in the area. The organization also is instrumental in protecting public access to our shores and working with the Shellfish Commission on watershed studies. PWA was fortunate to receive an endowment specifically for LaVerna Preserve this past year.
9. Spectrum Generations, requesting \$5,200, was represented by Herb Nixon, a volunteer. There was discussion regarding whether to raise this amount to \$7000, however no decision was made at this meeting. In addition to the Meals on Wheels program, Spectrum offers counseling on Medicare and Medicaid, caregiver respite, health and wellness counseling and more. In Bristol in 2017, Spectrum delivered 1,278 Meals-on-Wheels to 227 residents. Outreach counseling provided 183 hours on topics ranging from prescription drugs to elder abuse. 18 Bristol residents gave 453 volunteer hours of their time. The most recent budget was not available, however Mr. Nixon stated he would make sure the committee received it. The question of cost per meal to the organization was raised and an answer will be obtained for the committee at a later date.

Committee Vice-Chair Hanson asked why the CLC Ambulance request was not presented at this meeting, to which Mr. Hall advised it will request its funding at the Bristol Fire and Rescue meeting. The upcoming meeting schedule was discussed and it was agreed that the Budget Committee would attend the February 7<sup>th</sup> School Board meeting in an attempt to gain a clear understanding of the school budget. This will be contingent upon agreement from the School Board chair, whom Christopher Hall will

contact. On Monday February 12<sup>th</sup>, the School and Fire Department will present their budgets and on Tuesday February 13<sup>th</sup>, the Town and Parks & Rec will present theirs. Snow days will be Thursday February 15<sup>th</sup> and Friday February 16<sup>th</sup>. Committee member Davison was concerned about the need for more time and the 15<sup>th</sup> may be used for that. Christopher Hall reminded the group that the deadline for submitting the information for the Town Report to Lincoln County News is Friday February 16<sup>th</sup>.

Davison made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. and the motion was seconded by Hanson and carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lisa Peters  
01/24/2018