

1 CONWAY MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE

2 Wednesday, October 19, 2022

3 Professional Development Center

4 Kennett Middle School, Conway, NH

5  
6 The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM. The following Budget Committee members were present:  
7 Chair Peter Donohoe, Mary Seavey (as Selectmen's representative), Bob Drinkhall, Jim LeFebvre,  
8 Dave Jensen, Quentin Lewis, Bill Marvel, Randy Davison, Ellin Leonard, Kit Hickey, and Stacy Sand.

9  
10 Excused: Vice-Chair Frank Jost and Terry McCarthy

11  
12 Pledge of Allegiance

13  
14 3. Approval of Outstanding Minutes (8/17/2022):

15 **Ms. Sand moved, seconded by Mr. LeFebvre to approve the August 17, 2022, minutes as**  
16 **written. Motion Carries. (8-0-3[Mr. Drinkhall, Ms. Hickey, and Ms. Seavey])**

17  
18 4. Town & School Quarterly/Annual Budget Review (School FY 7/1 - 6/30):

19 **Kathleen Golding, Finance Director**, presented the Town of Conway Quarterly Revenue  
20 Report, beginning with Revenue. With intense commercial and residential construction activity,  
21 the Building Permits, Land Use Change Tax, and Timber Yield Tax, have realized greater gains  
22 than anticipated. On the expense side, most departments have expended all but a quarter of their  
23 appropriated funds. With sufficient funds on hand for the rest of the year, she saw no need for Tax  
24 Anticipation Notes this year.

25 **Mr. Drinkhall** inquired of the proportion of unpaid taxes. **Ms. Golding** stated she didn't know, as  
26 that would be the purview of the Tax Collector. **Mr. DegliAngeli** (sitting in for Town Manager  
27 John Eastman) stated the town's lien takings for third-year delinquency was as low as they have  
28 been in years, with only three properties taken for taxes

29  
30 **Kevin Richard, SAU #9 Superintendent**, provided a summary of the Conway School District's  
31 financial position for the last fiscal year, which ended June 30. The year ended with a fund  
32 balance of \$3,975,057, half of which the Conway School Board has decided to return to  
33 taxpayers. Special Education saw a significant surplus, primarily through funded positions that  
34 the district was unable to fill; \$1,390,113 remains unspent from a budget of \$6,237,695. Kennett  
35 High School produced an even greater surplus of \$1,842,945, more than two-thirds of which  
36 resulted from the window-replacement appropriation having been covered by federal funding.  
37 Several salary and benefit lines were also underspent, as well as fuel, groundskeeping, and  
38 transportation. The Middle School budget realized about a five-percent surplus, mainly because of  
39 locking in fuel prices at an advantageous moment. Surpluses at Conway Elementary School and  
40 John Fuller came primarily from salaries and benefits, while Pine Tree slightly overspent its  
41 budget. The Career-Tech programs came in almost on budget, and Technology had a slight  
42 surplus.

43 In response to a question from Jim Lefebvre, **Mr. Richard** said he had expected the change in  
44 health insurance to produce some savings, and he speculated that the lack of savings might be

45 attributable to people having elective surgeries that they had delayed during the pandemic, or to  
46 yet other factors. A discussion on charter schools ensued.

47  
48 5. Final Review of Town and School Questions Prior to Sending to Each Agency:

49 **Mr. Lefebvre** presented the current list of school questions.

50 **Mr. Jensen** advised the subcommittee for town questions had not met and they are down a  
51 member with Mr. Corbett's resignation.

52 **Mr. Lefebvre moved, seconded by Mr. Lewis to defer the town subcommittee report until**  
53 **the December meeting. Motion Carried. (11-0-0)**

54 **Ms. Leonard** advised the nonprofit subcommittee had nothing to report. **Chair Donohoe** urged  
55 members to collect the nonprofit requests packet prior to the meeting with nonprofits in January.

56  
57 6. Openings on Conway Municipal Budget Committee - Responses to CDS Ads:

58 **Chair Donohoe** advised that with Krista Day's absence from Town Hall he had been unable to  
59 learn if anyone has responded to the ad to fill the two Budget Committee vacancies.

60 **Jim Lefebvre moved, seconded by Mr. Jensen, to declare that eight members constitute a**  
61 **quorum of the Budget Committee, since two precincts have failed to appoint members. Mr.**  
62 **LeFebvre withdrew his motion.**

63 **Chair Donohoe** noted the bylaws require a quorum to consist of half the sitting members, "plus  
64 one." If vacancies do not count as sitting members, he suggested that the bylaws allow the  
65 committee to adjust the quorum without considering empty seats.

66  
67 7. Old Business: None

68  
69 8. New Business:

70 **Mr. Lewis** asked if his new budget-committee-specific email account could be used for  
71 communications. **Chair Donohoe** assured him he would remind Krista Day of it.

72  
73 9. Public and Media Questions/Comments: None

74  
75 10. Adjourn:

76 **Mr. Drinkhall moved, seconded by Mr. LeFebvre to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 p.m.**  
77 **Motion Carries (11-0-0)**

78  
79 Respectfully Submitted,

80 *Lisa E. Towle,*

81 Recording Secretary