

**MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT
PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING
February 10, 2020
*UNAPPROVED***

Immediately following the Commissioners Meeting

Call to Order: Bob Long called the budget hearing to order at 6:23 pm.

Roll Call: Bob Long, Mike Roberts and Mark Johanson

In Attendance: Ken King, Laraine King, Robert Roudebush, Dottie Long, Fred Garofalo and Chris Roberts.

Opening Discussion: Bob Long said there were changes needed to the budgets originally approved by the Budget Committee and they would be considered as the associated warrant articles were reviewed. Robert Roudebush, Budget Committee Chair, said the Committee had a successful series of meetings since October and despite weather delays at times, members were ready, willing and able to be flexible to reschedule and attend meetings and participate in active discussions. He said Dan Brady was definitely missed, but the Committee moved on with energy and accomplishment. He said District Administrator Kristi Garofalo handled taking notes and providing minutes as well as guidance and input on the budgetary process, and noted her on-going education in these challenging and complex issues on behalf of MLD has resulted in input both essential and appreciated. He thanked each of the Committee members by name for their research work, fresh perspectives, and ideas. He then noted revenues and expenditures remained stable over the last several years, including the 2020 proposed budgets, and final budget consideration will be at the March 14 meeting on with voters having the final say.

Budget Summary and Discussion: Bob Long explained the General Operating budget and the Water Department budget needed to be amended from those recommended by the Budget Committee because it was determined the Water Department fund balance was insufficient to fund two Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) deposits as planned. There were also changes to employee payroll and benefit lines in both budgets based on employee program participation and NH Department of Labor guidelines for calculating employee overtime.

Bob Long then led discussion on the 2020 proposed budgets and warrant articles with the following results:

2020 Article 1: (General Operations Budget) Each line affected by the changes noted above was reviewed and questions answered. Mike Roberts asked that line 5066-1 be increased to \$2,100 to cover the cost of purchasing largemouth bass to stock the Lakes as part of the apex predator program to prevent weed growth in the Lakes. After discussion, Mike Roberts moved to increase line 5066-1 to \$2,100. Bob Long seconded and the motion passed. Bob Long moved to approve Article 1 with all line changes noted; Mike Roberts seconded and the motion passed.

2020 Article 2: (Water Dept. Operating Budget) Each line affected by the changes noted above was reviewed and questions answered. After a brief discussion, Bob Long moved to approved the article with all line changes noted; Mark Johanson seconded and the motion passed.

2020 Article 3: Changes made in Article 2 required an associated change in the dollar amount of this article to \$7,014 to be deposited into the WD Water Emergency CRF. The change was discussed briefly. Bob Long moved to amend the amount to \$7,014; Mike Roberts seconded, and the motion passed.

2020 Article 4: Changes made in Article 2 required an associated addition of this article to appropriate funds to the WD Capital Improvement CRF in the amount of \$5,788. The addition was discussed briefly. Bob Long moved to approve the added article; Mark Johanson seconded, and the motion passed.

2020 Article 5: Little to no discussion; no changes made. Bob Long moved to approve; Mark Johanson seconded and motion passed.

2020 Article 6: Little to no discussion; no changes made. Bob Long moved to approve; Mike Roberts seconded and motion passed.

2020 Article 7: Little to no discussion; no changes made. Bob Long moved to approve; Mark Johanson seconded and motion passed.

2020 Article 8: Little to no discussion; no changes made. Bob Long moved to approve; Mark Johanson seconded and motion passed.

2020 Article 9: After discussion, the amount to be deposited into the Future Dam Projects CRF was amended to \$10,000. Bob Long moved to approve with amendment; Mark Johanson seconded and motion passed.

2020 Article 10: After discussion, Bob Long moved to approve this new article to create a new CRF for District Infrastructure and make an initial deposit of \$10,000. Mark Johanson seconded and motion passed.

2020 Article 11: After discussion, it was agreed to amend this article to change the purpose of the Office Software CRF to the Office Software and Equipment CRF. Bob Long moved to approve with amendment; Mike Roberts seconded and motion passed.

2020 Article 12: After discussion, it was agreed to add this article to deposit \$2,000 into the Office Software (& Equipment) CRF. Bob Long moved to approve the added article; Mike Roberts seconded and motion passed.

2020 Article 13 (Non-Monetary): Mark Johanson said part 2 of the article should be changed to read “One percent (1%) interest ...” rather than “one and one-half percent ...” on advice from legal counsel. Bob Long moved to approve with amendment; Mark Johanson seconded and motion passed.

2020 Article 14 (Non-Monetary): Mike Roberts noted a typo in the article; *Kristi Garofalo will correct*. Question was raised whether real estate was considered personal property; *Kristi Garofalo will research*. Mike Roberts moved to approve with typo corrected; Bob Long seconded and motion passed.

2020 Article 15 (Non-Monetary): Bob Long moved to approve; Mark Johanson seconded and motion passed.

2020 Article 16 (Non-Monetary): Bob Long moved to approve; Mike Roberts seconded and motion passed.

2020 Article 17 (Non-Monetary): Bob Long moved to approve; Mark Johanson seconded and motion passed.

2020 Article 18 (Non-Monetary): Bob Long moved to approve; Mike Roberts seconded and motion passed.

Proposed Budget Reviews: The Commissioners directed Kristi Garofalo to send the warrant and associated DRA budget forms to the District auditor and legal counsel for review and to DRA for pre-review. They gave Kristi Garofalo permission to make proofreading changes along with any small changes to the warrant (including adjusting the affected individual line items) based on outside reviews. If suggested changes are substantial, Kristi Garofalo will notify the Commissioners for a possible special meeting/work session to discuss them.

Bob Long moved to adjourn and Mike Roberts seconded. The public hearing was adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristi Garofalo