

**MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT
PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING
February 8, 2021
*AMENDED AND APPROVED***

Immediately following the Commissioners Meeting

Call to Order: Chair Bob Long called the budget hearing to order at 7:22 pm. He previously read a statement that the Board was authorized to meet electronically due to the declared state of emergency (COVID-19), that the meeting had been properly noticed and information given to the public on how to join the meeting via Zoom Video Conferencing, and that all votes would be by roll call, in accordance with the provisions of the Governor's emergency order.

Roll Call: Bob Long (with Dottie Long), Mike Roberts (alone) and Mark Johanson (alone)

Public Present: Dave Gilbertson, Laura Gilbertson, Francine Bowman, Ken Huard, Bill Clark, Kristin Kane, Lois Keenan, Patricia Brady, Mary Houde, Antonio Houde, Barbara Stanfield, Laraine King, Ken King, Robert Roudebush, Susan Hearn, Jeff Caggiano, Sherri Caggiano, Mike Bonanno, Polly Bonanno, Tom Mangels, Roger Warren, Barbara Warren, Joseph Mitchell, Dave Long, Debbie Fisk and Vinnie Sorrentino, along with participants identified as Barb, Chris and Farmhouse were present via Zoom along with District Administrator Kristi Garofalo.

Opening Discussion: Treasurer Laraine King said the Budget Committee worked to keep the budgets level funded to help keep the tax rate stable. She noted 2020 was a different year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and while 2021 was still uncertain, the Committee planned for a normal year.

Laraine King then led discussion on the 2021 proposed budgets and warrant articles with the following results:

2021 Article 1: Kristi Garofalo reported the legal requirement that the first warrant article ask voters approval of holding the annual meeting procedures per HB1129 and provided the following suggested wording from District legal counsel: ***Are you in favor of approving the District's optional annual meeting procedures according to House Bill 1129 as adopted by the NH Legislature and signed by the Governor, due to the COVID-19 pandemic? (Majority vote required) IF this article is not approved, all other votes shall be deemed to have failed and the Commissioners will have the option of calling a special meeting before September 1 to adopt an operating budget, or opt to deem that the meeting has adopted the 2020 operating budget again, without any separate warrant articles.*** After discussion, Bob Long moved to add the language as read to the warrant as Article 1 and change all other article numbers to correspond. Mike Roberts seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bob Long-Aye; Mike Roberts-Aye, Mark Johanson-Aye. The motion passed.

(NOTE: The following article numbers reflect the above approved change in numbering.)

2021 Article 2 (General Operations Budget): Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 3 (Water Dept. Operating Budget): Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 4: Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 5: Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 6: Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 7: Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 8: Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 9: Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 10: Little to no discussion; no changes made.

****BELOW AS AMENDED AND APPROVED 4/12/21****

2021 Article 11: Kristi Garofalo requested the article language be amended to insert the source of funding by adding the following language: "...with Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred (\$17,500) to come from General Operations Unassigned Fund Balance and Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred (\$17,500) to come from taxation." After discussion, Bob Long moved to approve the amendment of the article with the language as read; Mark Johanson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bob Long-Aye; Mike Roberts-Aye; Mark Johanson-Aye. The motion passed.

2021 Article 12: Little to no discussion; no changes made.

****ABOVE AS AMENDED AND APPROVED 4/12/21****

2021 Article 13 (Non-Monetary-Zoning Ordinance Amendment): Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 14 (Non-Monetary-Zoning Ordinance Amendment): Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 15 (Non-Monetary-Zoning Ordinance Amendment): Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 16 (Non-Monetary-Zoning Ordinance Amendment): Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 17 (Non-Monetary): Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 18 (Non-Monetary-Petitioned Warrant Article): Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 19 (Non-Monetary): Little to no discussion; no changes made.

2021 Article 20 (Non-Monetary): Little to no discussion; no changes made.

Proposed Budget Reviews: The Commissioners directed Kristi Garofalo to send the warrant and associated DRA budget forms to the DRA and legal counsel for review. After discussion, Bob Long made a motion to give Kristi Garofalo permission to make proofreading changes and other small changes to the warrant based on those outside reviews. Mark Johanson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bob Long-Aye; Mike Roberts-Aye; Mark Johanson-Aye. All agreed that if suggested changes are substantial, Kristi Garofalo will notify the Commissioners for a possible special meeting/work session to discuss them.

Budget Committee Appreciation: Bob Long thanked the Budget Committee for their time and effort and noted the Committee members did a great job putting together the proposed budgets.

Proposed Warrant Approval: Bob Long made a motion to accept the budgets proposed by the Budget Advisory Committee and the proposed warrant with the changes as approved. Mike Roberts seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bob Long-Aye; Mike Roberts-Aye; Mark Johanson-Aye. The motion passed.

Bob Long moved to adjourn and Mark Johanson seconded. The public hearing was adjourned at 7:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristi Garofalo