

Kingston Municipal Budget Committee
March 31, 2021 at 6 p.m.
Kingston Town Hall
Also Held Virtually via Videoconference (Zoom)

KMBC Members in Attendance:

Chuck Hart, Chair
Rick Russman, Vice Chair
Kim Donahue, Secretary
Marissa Federico, Recording Secretary
Claudine Dias
Stacy Dion
Gary Finerty (attending virtually via Zoom)
Nick Hilfer
James LaValley
John Pramberg
Annemarie Roth
Kevin St. James, representative from the Board of Selectmen (BOS)
Trish Tidd
Shaw Tilton

Chuck called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

All members introduced themselves.

OLD BUSINESS:

Approval of the minutes from the deliberative session held on 1/31/21: All members of the KMBC for the 2021 budget process voted to approve the minutes from this meeting. New members did not vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of officers:

Chairman:

MM&S: Rick nominated Chuck, Jim seconded

All in favor, none opposed

Vice Chairman:

MM&S: John nominated Rick, Jim seconded

All in favor, none opposed

Secretary:

MM&S: Rick nominated Kim, Annemarie seconded

All in favor, none opposed

Dates of future meetings:

Chuck explained there will be an organizational meeting of the KMBC in September. The first meeting with department heads is scheduled for early November. He explained that meetings in the last budget session were on Wednesdays and Sundays and asked members to consider on what day(s) they would prefer to hold meetings.

Overview of the budget process:

Chuck explained the budget process. He also explained that we will need to consider impact fees for the fire, police, and library budgets. Kevin explained that the BOS approves the expenditure of these fees. Kevin then explained the budget process from the standpoint of the BOS. He recommended that 3 prior years of information should be included as the KMBC considers each department's budget. Jim explained the responsibility as a liaison to a department head.

Adherence to Robert's Rule of Order:

Chuck explained the importance of adhering to the Robert's Rule of Order regarding member communications.

Future Salary Considerations - Hampstead Wage Survey

Kim asked about the continued usage of the Hampstead Wage Survey in considering future pay raises for town employees. Kevin stated the BOS considers that all town employee salaries have now been brought up to be commensurate with those serving towns with similar financial characteristics.

NEXT MEETING: There will be an organizational meeting of the KMBC in September, and the first meeting with the department heads will be in early November.

MM&S: Rick moved to end the meeting, John seconded
Chuck concluded the public hearing at 6:58 p.m.