I. OPEN MEETING
A. Opening Ceremonies
Chairman Edgerly opened the public hearing on the FY 16-17 Proposed Budget at 6:30 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call
Board of Selectmen members present: Chairman Elwood Edgerly, Vice Chairman Cynthia Freeman Cyr, Jane Conroy, Stephen Grammont, Scott Taylor and W. Ernie Thomas.
Absent: Gail D’Agostino.

Budget Advisory Committee members present: Present: Chairman Chris Maas, James Annis, Erin Callaway, Marc Poulin, and Kathleen Thibault.
Absent: Racquel Bozzelli (alternate), Erin Cabot, Kimberly Cavanagh, Deborah Davis, and Sean Letarte.

C. Adjustments to the Agenda

II. PUBLIC HEARING
FY 2016-2017 Proposed Municipal Budget
Patricia Johnson, Winter Street, referred to the pavement management plan. She asked why MDOT was not used, the amount of the cost of the study, and if this amount covered two days of work done by the firm. Town Manager, Jack Clukey, said that the cost for the pavement management plan completed by Gorrill Palmer was $11,000.00 for a two day study and evaluation of the towns paved roads, completion of a 10-year pavement management plan, and budget for future road improvements.

Mrs. Johnson said that in Sangerville, MDOT provided personnel for a study of the town’s roads at no cost. Members of the Board asked questions about the State study done in Sangerville. Mrs. Johnson said that the State did a fairly comprehensive study for the Town of Sangerville and she was concerned that the town paid for something that the State could have provided at no cost.

Marc Poulin said that funds were proposed in the current year’s budget of $23,000 for the pavement management study and the voters approved it.
The Town Manager said that in 2010, Maine Local Roads Center at MDOT helped with a demo version of a pavement management plan, and since 2010 the town’s road work has fallen further behind, so the town took the initiative and sent RFPs to engineering firms for a pavement management assessment.

The Town Manager said the RFPs were sent out, and Gorrill Palmer was selected to complete the study. He noted the differential in proposals with the high bid at over $56,000 and the low bid of $11,000 from Gorrill Palmer, what he thought to be a good price for this type of study. He said that Gorrill Palmer has done these types of studies for Portland, Westbrook, and Auburn and that they know how to quantify to find the most cost effective plan for pavement management.

Town Manager Clukey said that Gorrill Palmer was asked if they could bring back a plan so that a meaningful pavement management program could be done within a budget of $400,000. He said that the plan addresses preventative maintenance for critical sections of road to preserve the life of the pavement. He said that they were able to do that.

Patricia Johnson said she was concerned for the increase in the road budget and for exceeding the LD1 cap.

The Town Manager referred to the budget summary pages and explained the difference in appropriations over last year and that the increase results in approximately 9/10s of a mil. He said that the amount over the cap is $123,514.

He also explained that by doing preventative maintenance to roads according to the pavement management plan, the town is saving $6 - $10 for every $1 spent by keeping roads out of the reconstructive category.

Chris Maas said that there have been past unsuccessful attempts to bring the road budget to $400,000. He said that although the voters have approved the budget for road improvements, they have not passed the vote to exceed the LD1 cap. He also said that there is over $2,000,000 in backlogged road rehabilitation and reconstruction and that this number will only get larger if we don’t begin addressing this issue.

Nick Calderone, Vulner Road, asked about the 10-year plan and said that for ten years, it is quite a leap to assume pricing. He asked if the amounts were adjusted for inflation.

Town Manager, Jack Clukey, said that the prices are not adjusted for inflation.

Mr. Calderone talked about median household income, inflation, and local government. He said that local government is growing at four times the amount of inflation and household income and expressed concern for people’s ability to pay.

Stephen Grammont said that the share of municipal costs paid by property taxes have increased because the State no longer pays their share at the municipal level. He said that the State has shifted responsibilities to municipalities and has retained funding that used to be appropriated to municipalities and property taxes. The Town Manager referred to the decrease in revenue sharing and said that in 2008 State Revenue sharing was $560,000 and in 2015 it was $230,000 representing a tax shift to property tax payers in an amount over one mil. He also said that local road assistance has decreased by $20,000 in recent years.

The Town Manager said he asked the engineers to follow up on the impacts of deferring road maintenance. He said the study showed that deferring for five years results in costs increasing by $1,570,000 over the same 10-year period.
Mr. Calderone asked for an explanation of the need for other funding or bonding for road work. The Town Manager explained that the pavement management plan only addresses preventative maintenance to keep those roads from falling into the rehabilitation and reconstruction category. He said in order to address roads in those categories another funding source would need to be considered.

Those present discussed the benefits of road improvements such as wear and tear on cars and also wear and tear on the plow trucks. Chris Maas said it is worth considering what kind of town we want to live in. He also said that if road improvements are not done, it will become a burden on future generations.

Mrs. Johnson said that the town should consider capping the non-profit agencies in town.

Members talked about attending meetings for the school budget and county budget as these budgets affect local property taxes.

III. OTHER

IV. ADJOURN
Motion: Maas, seconded: Grammont to adjourn at 7:30 PM. Unanimous. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Town of Dover-Foxcroft Board of Selectmen

Elwood E. Edgerly, Chairman
Cynthia Freeman Cyr, Vice Chairman
Stephen G. Grammont

Jane K. Conroy
Gail D’Agostino
Scott A. Taylor
W. Ernie Thomas