



Select Board /Assessors Meeting Summary

Feb. 28, 2024

6:30 p.m.

Select Board members present: Wesley Daniel, Katherine Grinnell and Mitchell Garnett

Others present: Town Clerk Mary Anderson, CEO David Studer

Wes called the Select Board meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approve Summary of Feb. 21, 2024: Motion to approve summaries by Mitch, Kate seconded. All in favor, motion carries.

Sign Treasurer's Warrants dated Feb. 22, 2024:

P/R Warrant #17: \$5,847.41

A/P Warrant #18: \$201,216.04; Wes noted 99.9% of the total is for the school payment.

Motion to approve warrants by Kate, Mitch seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

Road Foreman Report: Written by Frank Jones Jr. and read by Wes

2/19: President's Day holiday

2/20: Worked on trailer: tire low on air, rim rusted and will need to be replaced

2/21: Called to price out rims (\$190 each) but Eric Kenefick donated rims instead

2/22: Fueled up trucks and loader; mixed sand; put new tires on trailer

2/23: Sanded for black ice and snow

CEO Report: Dave continues to field questions but did not issue any permits or complete any inspections this week. As well, he is working on issuing permits that should have been done previously.

Health Officer Report: None.

Town Clerk/Treasurer's Report: A revenue share check in the amount of \$28,516.05 was received this week. The checking account balance is \$389,617. Town attorney Peter Drum sent along the final draft of the Trails Ordinance that will be voted on at town meeting. Select Board members and Mary met with the auditors on Tuesday, everything went well. Kate signed a donation letter for Eric Kenefick.

Broadband update: None.

Other Agenda Items: Select Board members will meet with Marcus from MMA Risk Management on April 2 during the regular Select Board workshop.

Other business: Wes made a motion to accept the Trails Ordinance as the final version to vote on at town meeting, Kate seconded; all in favor, motion carries.

Questions/comments: None.

Kate made a motion to adjourn, Wes seconded; meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Stephanie Grinnell

Budget Committee, 7 p.m.

Budget Committee members present: Donald Grinnell, Kathleen Ocean, Sean Donaghy, Wendy Carr; by phone, David Williams and Jesse Casas.

Also present: Select Board members Wes Daniel, Katherine Grinnell and Mitchell Garnett, Town Clerk Mary Anderson

Don called the Budget Committee meeting to order at 7 p.m. and determined that with the remote members on the phone, there was a quorum. He asked Kate to present changes since the last meeting and the audit. Changes included an updated number for Worker's Compensation; a clarification on which Public Works truck payments were which; an increase to the Public Works Maintenance line because there are significant repairs needed to the garage doors.

Dave asked if the increase to \$10,000 under Public Works Maintenance will cover the work to the garage doors as well as standard maintenance and Wes said it would.

Kate explained a change suggested by the auditors that combined two prior year lines – "Unexpended funds" and "Undesignated funds" – under one line called "Unappropriated surplus." Dave asked how much of that money will be used to offset taxes and Wes said all of it. Kate clarified Select Board members would like to see the Budget Committee reconsider several budget cuts made at the prior meeting, and noted the auditors also agree with the recommendation to add back \$10,000 each to the rollover accounts designated for a new fire truck, a new public works truck and the revaluation fund.

Dave said he feels the school budget will eat up most of the unappropriated surplus but Kathy urged the Budget Committee to stay focused on the municipal budget. Don wondered why the town had to borrow money when there was money leftover and why the extra funding doesn't reflect in the checkbook. Mitch said it is all about cash flow, so it wouldn't show in the checkbook; and some of the "found" money is interest gained on savings accounts, which also would not show in the checkbook.

Adding the \$30,000 back to the Budget Committee's recommendations would make it match the Select Board recommendations.

Kathy made a motion to add back \$10,000 to each of the three accounts it was removed from, Sean seconded. Jesse wondered why "found" money should influence Budget Committee decisions and Kathy reminded everyone the committee agreed at the last meeting to apply any "found" money to the budget. She also suggested following the auditor's advice, which is to keep funding accounts at the same level rather than "rollercoaster" funding from year to year. Don noted that even with the \$30,000 added back to the Budget Committee recommendation, it still results in a 14.94% decrease to the municipal and county budget (without the \$30,000, it would be an 18.75% decrease). Don called for a vote on Kathy's motion to add a total of \$30,000 back into the Budget Committee recommendation and the motion was unanimously approved.

After some additional discussion about the unappropriated surplus, Kathy made a motion to adjourn, Wendy seconded; all in favor, motion carries.