

BOARD OF SELECTMAN - BUDGET HEARING

OLD CHURCH BUILDING

WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 5, 2020

Board members in attendance: Chairman Colin Stubbings, Selectman Randy Subject, Selectman Wayne Godfrey.

Members of the Public also in attendance: Gary Hebert, Joyce Tompkins, Helga Mueller, Rebecca Bailey, Bernie Marvin, Abby Metcalf, Frank Rodimon, Bruce Henry, Carolyn Danielson, Gary Danielson, Jason Bachus, Gail Bachus, Sandi Pierce.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Stubbings at 7:10pm. He stated the meeting was being recorded solely for the purpose of accurate minutes, and that others in the room may also be recording but have not declared the fact.

Gary Hebert led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Stubbings started with revenues; current summary of projected revenues. Abby Metcalf asked about the increase in timber taxes. Chairman Stubbings spoke about large cuts that took place.

Expenditures: **Selectmen**; Very little change from previous year. Retirement is seen in the budget this year. There were questions about the Computer services work. Chairman Stubbings stated new IT company has taken over. **Town Clerk**; Increase for elections. Other line items roughly the same. Supervisors of the Checklist have asked for an increase from \$10.00 to \$12.00. There was brief discussion about added responsibilities of the Supervisors. **Tax Collector**; Question about Treasurer salary increase was raised. Chairman Stubbings spoke that it was an increase previous year that needed to be caught up. Budget has been reduced due to change in auditing firm. **Assessor**; Budget to be flat from previous year. **Zoning/Planning**; Zoning/Planning Secretary has asked for an increase. Master Plan survey has been sent out. Wayne Godfrey made a recommendation to move \$100.00 from postage and place it in the line for the Planning/Zoning Secretary. Selectboard agreed. There was discussion about the Zoning Administrator salary. Selectman Godfrey made a motion to increase the Zoning Administrator salary by \$100.00 Chairman Stubbings 2nd the motion. Voted 2-1. Motion passed. **General Government**; Question was raised about the holding tank under the highway garage. Frank Rodimon has stated the tank does not need to be emptied at this point. He checks the tank on a regular basis. Questions were raised about salary lines for the buildings. Chairman Stubbings clarified it was for snow clearing and janitorial services. Building repairs have been increased for painting. **Sexton**; No discussion. **Police Dep; Chairman** Stubbings spoke about the Police Chief retiring in September. There is an increase in the line for part-time officer as Gary Hebert will stay on for the onboarding process. **Animal Control**; Budget increased slightly. Upper Valley Humane Society contract in place has increased due to more animals being dropped off. **Ambulance Service**; No discussion. **Fire Dept**; budget has decreased. Bruce Henry spoke that due to some Officers dropped off. Randy asked about training line item. He would like to reduce it down to \$750.00 from \$3000.00. Bruce agreed with reducing the number. Chairman Stubbings reviewed prior year figures, \$750.00 was good average. Warrant article for Fire Dept to purchase new radios. **Fast Squad**; Increase in mileage for training. No discussion. **Emergency Management**; Budget reduced. No discussion. **Highway**; Salary increase to offset retirement contribution. Retirement added into budget for 2020. Abby Metcalf asked if Frank Rodimon had

retirement. It was stated to Abby Metcalf that no he was not enrolled. There was discussion about insurance line, figure proposed was incorrect. Correction should be \$10,000.00 instead of the proposed \$23,000.00. Paving and cold patch has increased. Frank Rodimon spoke about road projects he would like to do. **Sanitation**; Budget is reduced. New compactor is saving on trucking. Recycling is very slowly coming back up. **Welfare**; Same as last year based on obligation by state. **Recreation**; No discussion. **Library**; budget increase \$500.00. Selectman Randy asked about library financials according to RSA Article 200. Specifically looking for reserve amounts. **Patriotic**; Discussion about needing volunteers for committees. **Conservation Commission**; Same as previous year. No discussion. **Debt Service**; Increased due to highway truck and police cruiser payments. **Capital Outlay**; Nothing budgeted. **Town Building**; \$10,000.00 **Expendable Trust Funds**; \$8,500.00 **Sewer District**; \$ \$32,825.00. **Debt Service**; fixed rate until 2037.

Budget decrease of 4.2% overall.

Warrant articles were read by Chairman Stubbings.


A Motion to close the public hearing was made by Selectman Subjeck and seconded by Selectman Godfrey. The Board voted in favor 3-0.

Budget Hearing closed at 9:21pm.

Minutes written by Sandi Pierce

Approved 4/9/2020

Colin Stubbings



Randy Subjeck



Wayne Godfrey