

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 30, 2020 meeting held at SAU joined by Budget Committee in SPED Room

Present: Chairman Steve Diorio, Selectman Bernie Rideout, Selectman Mike Carrier, Selectman Megan Kondrat, Selectman Richard Johnson; T.A. Collins and Kim Worden. Budget Committee was present in SPED Room and via Zoom. (Lindsay Blake-Budget Committee, Pete Zavorotny-Budget Committee, and James MacDonell, all via Zoom). Chief Rataj, Robert Johnson, and Frank Podlenski attended in person.

6:00 p.m. Chairman Diorio called the meeting to order, reviewed guidelines and noted that instructions for attending via Zoom were on the Agenda and posted. He gave instruction for those attending via Zoom on muting, unmuting, voting, and commenting.

[Budget Committee was called to order and roll calls were taken.]

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Robert Johnson, **Wastewater Treatment** Plant Supervisor, was present for questions and discussion.

Robert indicated that his budget was down \$10,000, however he had a couple of items to mention. In *Equipment Repair*, he felt there is a need to replace a mobile trash pump (transfer pump/trash pump) that is 40 years old and both the engine and pump have been rebuilt once. It wouldn't lift to the height to pump out of the wet wells. He has been looking at prices and has had difficulty finding a similar style gasoline pump (most are diesel). Those are running close to \$20,000 and he is hoping to spend \$10,000. Discussion followed. It was stressed that this is needed for emergency situations.

Selectman Kondrat **made a motion to add** the \$10,000 to the Equipment Repair line for a total of \$20,000, being that the overall budget is down \$10,000 from last year, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Kondrat **made a motion to tentatively approve** the Wastewater Treatment Plant Budget at \$407,675 second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

After a Budget Committee motion, Robert added that he would like to add to the *Lines and Equipment* line for major cleaning and tv-ing (camera work) that was supposed to be done each year. None was done this year and it's been two years without any done, as they had to do a lining project. He would like to see at least \$5000 as they are supposed to do 1/5 of the system per year. Questions and discussion followed. T.A. Collins added that this is part of his EPA certification and licensing and essential for his budget. A question was asked whether sewer rates would need to be raised. T.A. Collins responded that it is unknown at this point.

Selectman Carrier **made a motion to add** \$5000 to *Lines and Equipment* line to a total of \$15,000 and tentatively approve the Wastewater Treatment Plant Budget at \$412,675, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

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Frank Podlenski, Highway Superintendent was present to discuss his budgets. **Parks** was discussed first. He indicated that Salary Extra Help line could be lowered to 10,420, taking 3000 off, due to non-use of rental facility during COVID and having a dry summer which decreased mowing to about 60%. He indicated that building repairs could be lowered; however, the Old Schoolhouse needs paint. The total he is looking at now is \$38,319.

Selectman Carrier **made a motion to tentatively approve** the Parks Budget at \$38,319, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

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There was further discussion, review, and clarification of *Building and Repairs* line with T.A. Collins. Selectman Carrier made a **motion to tentatively approve a new number for the Parks Budget at \$37,319**, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

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**Transfer Station** was discussed. Chair Diorio noted that this is up \$3000. Frank added that increases are due to retirement and coverage when the attendant is out. Worker's Comp is up too. Selectman Kondrat made a **motion to tentatively approve the Transfer Station Budget at \$71,447**, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

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Chair Diorio noted that the **Highway Budget** is up \$22,000. T.A. Collins indicated that the increase is due to health insurance as Frank is part-time, no longer full-time, and she put in Health Benefits for Family plan (vs. single). It was noted the increase was in health insurance and there was a savings seen in salary. Discussion with questions from the Budget Committee.

Selectman Rideout made a **motion to tentatively approve the Highway Budget at \$694.896**, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

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Frank noted he would be ordering Pay-Per-Bag trash bags tomorrow and had a question for the Board. He noted that the Board's past increase was approved at unequal percentages. Discussion followed and all were in favor of leveling out the increase (Large to be \$25.00 per package/\$2.50 each and Small to be \$12.50 per package/\$1.25 each).

Selectman Carrier made a **motion to increase the Pay-Per-Bag (pay as you throw) amounts by 25%** (to even out the increase), second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

In response to a question, Frank estimated this to take effect in 8 to 10 weeks.

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Chief Rataj was present to discuss the **Police Department Budget**. Salary increases are due to COLA; Health Insurance increases they have no control over; and Retirement increases are mandated by the State. PD incentive program increases of \$20,000 are due to a bonus to certified officers, being instrumental to turn around the department and to sunset in 2022, according to Chief Rataj. He explained the increase in overtime to include multiple officers necessary to participate in drug cases. Chair Diorio noted that the total budget is up 36,771 and retirement alone was \$39,000. Computers were adjusted down. Selectman Johnson reiterated that he is all about the numbers and has been extremely impressed with the way Chief Rataj has handled the numbers and commended him for a fine job.

Selectman Johnson made a **motion to tentatively approve the Police Department Budget at 1,483,923**, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

There was Budget Committee discussion with Chief Rataj on Janitor, Incentive Program, Animal Control revenue, and School Resource Officer. Peter Zavorotny recommended looking at an RSA on alternate the Budget Committee. Discussion followed.

T.A. Collins mentioned that next week Parks and Rec (Summer, Pool, Community Events, and Community Center), Fire Department, and Water Budgets will be discussed. This will be Monday at 6, place to be determined.

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*[Budget Committee adjourned]*

*Board Comments:*

Selectman Carrier noted that the Conservation Committee will not be holding a meeting this week.

Chair Diorio noted a second online forum re: Existing Bridges will be on Wednesday with Zoom info. to be available.

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*Citizen Comments:*

Chief Rataj noted that he is very proud of the patrols division. He updated the Board on another drug arrest. He also updated them on four new COVID cases over two days.

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Selectman Carrier made a **motion to approve** the manifests of 11/30/20 and public and non-public minutes of 11/23/20, second by Rideout. The vote is as follows: Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I; Johnson-I; and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

Chair Diorio acknowledged and thanked the School Board for allowing us to use the facility. He thought zoom-wise it went well and hopes to get the rooms again next week.

Chair Diorio read a document signed by T.A. Collins: *Petition for Highway Layout Per N.H. RSA 231:6*. This is related to layout of a Class V roadway to provide public access to public waters via a boat ramp and access to boat ramp vehicle parking (Map 0015, Lot 0001, Prospect Street). T.A. Collins plans to schedule a public hearing for January 11<sup>th</sup>.

Selectman Carrier made a **motion to schedule a Public Hearing** re: the boat ramp, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

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7:58 p.m. Selectman Kondrat made a **motion to adjourn**, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden  
Secretary