

Select Board Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 15, 2024 meeting held at Hinsdale Town Hall

Present: Chairman Steve Diorio, Selectman Bernie Rideout, Selectman Mike Carrier, and Selectman Richard Johnson. Excused: Selectmen Bill Hodgman.

Also present were; Town Administrator Kathryn Lynch, Finance Director Jodie Holmquist, Building Inspector/Health Officer Rod Lawrence, Library Trustee Jeana Major, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Julie Seymour, Supervisor of the Check List, Karen Johnson, Water Department Superintendent Jack White and Ann Marie Diorio

6:00 p.m. Chair Diorio called the meeting to order.

Rod Lawrence, Building Inspector /Health Officer

K Lynch explained the variances in the budgets, including moving a vehicle allowance to a part of the salary line. R. Lawrence also discussed the need for a training line, currently all training and dues and fees go into one line. J. Holmquist stated that this can be done.

Jeana Major, Trustee of the Hinsdale Library

J. Major explained the majority of the increases is in salaries, increased hours for the head librarian and one of the assistants.

Julie Seymour, Tax Collector/ Town Clerk

J. Seymour requested an additional 2% increase in her compensation. K. Lynch discussed J. Seymour's original compensation package and agreed that J. Seymour compensation for the past 8 years has put her behind. Discussion was also held regarding the current software; Hinsdale is only one of three towns in NH that does quarterly billing. The current software is inadequate. Discussion followed.

Karen Johnson, Supervisor of the Checklist

K. Johnson explained her budget is down due to the fact that there will be only town meeting in the 2025-2026 year.

Jack White, Water Department Director

J. White budget is down 1.72%. K Lynch informed the board of how a difference in compensation was being computed for on call pay. Discussion followed, it was decided at this time to leave the budget they way it is and update the information in the following year. The difference is 24 hours yearly. Discussion was held regarding a vehicle that is to be shared by the waste water and water department.

Jodie Holmquist, Cemetery Trustee

J Holmquist explained the increase in the cemetery budget due to increased maintenance.

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Discussion was also held regarding a warrant article to create an expendable trust for the cemetery. Discussion was also held regarding the Pearson Trust.

Jodie Holmquist, Finance Director/ Trustee of the Trust Funds/ Treasurer and Budget Committee

Discussion was held it was decided to correct the health insurance cost to reflect part of it to waste water and water departments. J Holmquist reviewed the saving cost and income increases by switching to another bank.

Kathryn Lynch, Government Buildings

K. Lynch discussed the budget last year all the custodian was put in this budget, for the 25-26 year it will be broken between all departments that the custodian works in. Also increased for a parttime 10 hour a week person that will be helping.

Discussion was held regarding the time line for the meetings to be held with budget committee. K Lynch will discuss with them 10/16/24 at their meeting.

S. Diorio asked R. Johnson what was the purpose of the public hearing he wanted. R. Johnson stated it was to apologize to the taxpayers for the lack of communication from the Fire Department regarding the who, what, and why of the purpose for the meeting. Discussion followed regarding the lack of communication from the Fire Department. Discussion was held regarding if a vote was needed to put this on the agenda and what was the posting period for a public hearing after discussion the following motion was made:

Selectman Rideout made a motion to approve the public hearing to be held October 28, 2024 and seconded by Selectmen Carrier. The motion passed.

7:48 p.m. Selectman Carrier made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Selectmen Johnson. The motion passes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Marie Diorio,
Acting Secretary