



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING  
MEETING MINUTES  
November 2, 2022**

**Present:** Bob Hamilton, Chairman, Marybeth Quill, Vice Chair, and Karl Pruter, Selectman, Lori Rautiola, Town Administrator, Laurie May, Finance Director

Bob opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m. at the Town Office. Bob made a motion to enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 9A:3 II (a) personnel at 5:00 p.m. Marybeth seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

The meeting reconvened at 6:15 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance. Bob made a motion to seal the two sessions of the non-public meeting pursuant to RSA: 91-A:3 II (a) reputation. Marybeth seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

**Selectmen Announcements:** Bob noted the November 8<sup>th</sup> Election will be held at the Rindge Memorial School from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The Town Office building will be closed on November 17<sup>th</sup> for the installation of a new septic system and the Town Clerk's Office will also be closed on November 23<sup>rd</sup>. All offices are closed on November 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> for the Thanksgiving holiday.

**Other Business:** Bob mentioned he wished to add October's expenditures and the COLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) to "new business" and "old business" respectively. The October expenditures were distributed. The Board reviewed the expenditures as presented. Laurie May noted the Town Clerk has been utilizing the Deputy Town Clerk more so than the Tax Collector and the wages will be budgeted accordingly in 2023. Bob noted the Zoning Board of Adjustment was over the bottom line of their budget and questioned the reasoning for this.

**Citizen's Forum:** There was no public comment.

**Consent Agenda:** Approval of:

- 10//26/2022 Minutes
- Payroll & Accounts payable 11/03/2022

Marybeth made a motion to accept the consent agenda as written. Karl seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

**Old Business:**

ARPA: No updates on ARPA.

COLA: There was a brief discs

**New Business:**

2023 Budget- Recreation Department: Dan Bemis presented the Recreation Budget. The overall budget showed some minor increases due to training conferences, inflation expenses in supplies, and mileage.

Welfare Budget: Mary Drew explained the Welfare Department had a \$5,000 cut to the budget last year on the social agency support line. She stated she would like to add the \$5,000 back to the budget as needed because those agencies fund Rindge residents more than the entire welfare budget could. The fuel line increased by 30% due to inflation. The burial line was reduced by \$2,000 to help offset the social agency line.

Library: Donna Straitiff presented the library budget. The budget came in with a slight overall increase of \$1565.

Tax Collector: Tax Collector, Andrea LaVache presented the budget. Andrea noted residents have shown an interest in making online payments. She has researched the best software for Rindge and found Avitar to be competitive and a good fit for Rindge. This project is being considered as a project for the ARPA funds. There would be a one-time start-up fee of \$1,000 and a \$50 ongoing monthly bank fee which is budgeted under Bank Service Charges. Fees would incur to the residents when making online payments. Postage has increased as well as computer supplies-tax bills, and staff development for the mandatory training for certified NH Tax Collectors.

Planning Board: Planning Director, Kirk Stenersen presented the budget showing an overall increase of \$160 in the operating budget.

Cemetery: DPW Director, Mike Cloutier presented the cemetery budget. He noted the wage line was not used entirely in 2022 due to the position being vacant for much of the summer but he would like the budget to remain the same as last year.

Parks & Playgrounds: Mike presented the budget as level and recommended it remain the same as last year.

Solid Waste: Mike explained the only increase in this budget was fuel, which he increased to \$5,200. Bob noted the budget was overspent by \$1100 at this point in 2022.

Town Buildings: Mike stated the line for streetlights should remain the same. The remaining budget will be spent by December. Mike noted there was an increase in electricity as well as heat. Mike was able to lock in a rate of \$3.99 a gallon with Reds in Jaffrey. A building contracts line was added this year. Mike divided the funds between supplies and the new building contracts line. The overall budget is showing an increase of \$23,700 mostly due to fuel.

Highway: Mike explained that diesel fuel and materials are once again the major increases for the Highway budget. He foresees the 2022 fuel budget to be overspent by about \$8,000-\$9,000 by December. There was a brief discussion on fuel costs. The overall operating budget is showing an increase of \$28,260. Mike proposed using the \$43,000 taken from the paving line and putting it towards

the fuel cost as a saving. Mike also mentioned due to a major repair halfway through the summer on a piece of equipment he decided to hold off on some of the paving.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

**Informational Items/Communications/Updates:** Special events permit for the Rec. Departments Semi-Annual Live Nativity and Breakfast with Santa. Karl made a motion to approve both special event permits. Marybeth seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Rautiola  
Town Administrator