



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
January 12, 2022**

**Present:** Karl Pruter, Chair, Bob Hamilton and Marybeth Quill, Selectmen; Laurie May, Finance Director, Amanda Urmann, Secretary; and members of the public.

Public session opened at 6:06 pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance.**

**Selectmen announcements:**

There was originally going to be a swearing in ceremony, but it will now be moved to a different meeting date so that family of the officers can be notified in a timely manner so that they can be there to attend.

Bob mentioned that it's still unsure if the MEAT raffle will be going on next month.

**Citizens' forum:**

Roberta Oeser mentioned that the last meeting about the BTLA settlement date is actually January 20<sup>th</sup> and not December 31<sup>st</sup>. Karl Pruter said that December 31<sup>st</sup> was the target date for the town and that's when KRT agreed to get it done by, but if it did not happen by then, it did not happen. Apologies were made about confusion of dates.

The cost of the Town Report has gone up a little from last year due to costs rising in general, but it shouldn't be a significant difference. Roberta Oeser asked if we were going to get more copies this year since last year ran out so quickly and mentioned that she would order at least 250 more copies. This will be looked into to see how many were ordered last year so that we can go from there on ordering.

Craig Clark said that the MS-9 and MS-10 are being worked on still to reach the deadline for the Town Report but it may not be able to be there.

If you have a picture for the Town Report cover that we can take into consideration, you can email them to [executivesecretary@town.rindge.nh.us](mailto:executivesecretary@town.rindge.nh.us) by January 21<sup>st</sup>.

In regards to the Town Warrants, the current tax collector, Andrea Lavache, is finishing up Carol Donovan's term and is running for re-election for a 1 year term in 2022 and then will have to run for re-election again for a 3 year term if elected.

**Consent Agenda:**

1. Approval of:

- Minutes 1/5/2022
- Payroll 1/6/2022, 1/13/2022
- Accounts payable 1/6/2022, 1/13/2022
- Abatements

Karl Pruter commented that they were unable to do this week's accounts payable (1/13/2022) and that it will be put on next week's agenda. Bob Hamilton mentioned that they have already done accounts payable from 1/6/2022.

Bob motions to accept minutes from 1/5/2022 and payroll from 1/13/2022. Karl seconds. 3-0-0

Abatement for M15, L52, Sub2 is for \$136

Abatement for M2 L74, M11 L1 Sub3, M45 L32, M14 L13, M45 L4 Sub1 is for \$4.21

Bob motions to accept the payroll from 1/6/2022 and abatements aforementioned. Karl seconds. Marybeth abstains. 2-0-1

## 2. Old Business

- a) The corrected holiday calendar was signed by 3 selectmen. To be posted on the town website, at the post office and at the library.

### PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET:

Public hearing opened at 6:30pm.

Default budget 2021: \$4,430,347

No default for 2022 has been calculated yet, to be prepared next week, as Laurie May has been in training all week.

Actual expenditures are \$4,436,425.38, which is mostly salary increases. Operating budget is relatively flat.

The BAC was only recently able to see impact of the salaries, but they have come in mostly as expected. It includes ----- pay for most employees and the COLA which has been based on Social Security, which is 5.9% this year.

Roberta Oeser asked about what was happening with the 9<sup>th</sup> officer wages and if it goes in the default budget. Chief Malynowski said that that 9<sup>th</sup> officer was hired, but then that one officer left, vacating that position. There was a time when that position was filled, but it was not the entirety of that salary, but it does fall into the default budget. It is noted that Sergeant's salary was inadvertently left out and that the number is inaccurate and the number will go up because of this.

Ashley Saari asked if these changes can be made to the budget now, or if another meeting is needed to be held or is this an adjustment that just has to be made before the deliberative session. The computer access for Laurie May was not accessible so it was not fixable then. Dan

Whitney mentioned that there was no need because this is a hearing and after this meeting, it can still be moved at the deliberative session.

The numbers are off about \$100,000 for this (salary is \$75,000 + retirements and benefits, ect etc), which brings the budget to \$4,774,666.14. The other "savings" mentioned earlier were already put into the budget prior to this.

Bob mentions these additions bring the number over his target.

Karl proposes to save \$14,000, the COLA increase can be reduced from 5.95% to 4.5%, which would bring the budget down to \$4,754,423.

Dan Whitney recommends setting a time aside for next Selectmen's meetings so that everyone can know what is going on with the budget.

Phil Motta asks if they will have an opportunity to see what the default budget looks like after the additions of today's meeting. Laurie May says yes, she will be working on it this weekend.

Holly Koski asks if this public hearing will be continued until the next meeting.

Karl mentions he is open to this possibility.

Ashley Saari asks if it isn't continued, if can the budget continue after this meeting. Would any changes have to wait until deliberative session? If there needs to be any changes, there should be a continuation of this hearing.

It is mentioned by Dan Whitney there is a deadline for this and that it needs to be done by Tuesday, January 18, 2022.

Selectmen are not ready to agree on budget.

The budget brought to the table is still incorrect and needs to be corrected before anything is agreed on.

Motioned by Karl to continue meeting on January 18, 2022 at 6:15PM at the Recreation Department Building. Bob seconded. 3-0-0

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Urmann  
Executive Secretary