

Board of Selectmen Meeting Town Office Wednesday, 11/6/2019 6:00 PM

MINUTES

Present: Selectmen: Bob Hamilton, Roberta Oeser, Karl Pruter, Executive Secretary Michele Christian, Finance Director Laurie May Members of the community: Sharon Rasku, Holly Koski, Debra Qualey, Roniele Hamilton, Phil Motta, Donna Straitiff, Flo Marsh, Karla MacLeod, Al L'Eplattenier, Ron Osimo, Mike Cloutier, Kelen Geiger, Dan Whitney, Ellen Smith, Cheryl McCabe-Charron

The public meeting was opened at 6:05 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Selectmen's Announcements – Roberta stated that the tax bills went out yesterday.

Citizen's Forum: Bob reviewed the rules for citizen's forum. There were no comments for citizen's forum.

Changes to the Consent Agenda – The minutes of 10/22/19 have been added to the consent agenda. Bob made a motion to accept the consent agenda, seconded by Karl. Approved 3-0-0

Consent Agenda

- 1. Approval of:
 - Minutes 10/16/2019, 10/22/2019, 10/29/2019
 - Payroll 11/7/2019
 - Accounts payable 11/7/2019

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Bob made a motion to approve consent agenda as presented with changes, seconded by Roberta. Approved 3-0-0

Old Business:

a) Funding for the Generators:

Bob stated that the warrant article of 2019 was for \$145,000 for new generators. This did not include the installation. There is \$20,000 in the rec. dept. fund from when the building was built as well as \$5,000 from the impact fees that must be spent this year. The board is going to ask the trustees of the Ward Trust Fund for \$9,999.00 to offset the cost of the 40 KW generator installation. Roberta stated that there was \$35,000 in the rec fund that was donated. The generators will be able to restore power in the case of an emergency.

Karl spoke to Dan at the Rec. Committee but there has not been a consensus yet.

3) New Business

a) Cemetery Budget Proposal:

There were no questions or comments on the cemetery budget.

b) Library Budget Proposal:

Donna spoke regarding the increase in the salaries. There have been some staffing changes. Wages and benefits went up due to the 53 week pay period. The operating budget is up \$200.00. There have been increases in program attendance, circulation, library visits and patrons added. There has been a 10% increase in the library cards. Roberta asked if there was any money left over that could be used toward the books and then pull it out of next year's budget.

Karl wanted to know why there was such a big jump in the program attendance. Donna stated that there are more programs for the school age children both elementary as well as middle school age. Bob stated that the rec department also has a movie license. Donna said that she already bought the license for \$300.00. Bob asked if the library was able to use Kindle. The library does have access.

c) Highway Dept. Budget Proposal:

The highway budget went up 2%. The wages went up due to the 53rd pay period. Ellen Smith asked if Mike thought \$108,225.00 is enough for the sand and snow materials. She also asked about the new equipment that is being bought she wanted to know about parts. Dan Whitney asked if there was something that Mike wanted for his budget what that would be. Mike said that he doesn't put gravel for the dirt roads in the budget he usually takes that out of the materials line. Dan also asked if Mike had a three year average. There is \$17,000 in the materials line item.

Phil Motta stated that the line painting is way under budget. Mike said that there was some painting done in August and he just got the bill.

There was discussion about moving to a bi-weekly pay period.

d) Highway Projects Budget Proposal:

The block grant is up 182,000 which we get from the state. The highway appropriations for projects is up \$50,000. Bob said that we are catching up. Dan Whitney asked what it would take to get back on to the five year plan. Mike said that they need to do six miles per year. Currently, they are paving around four miles. Mike said with the additional \$50,000 he would be able to catch up in a couple of years. The LED conversion on the street lights will begin next week. The projected savings were cut from the budget by approximately \$3,000.

e) Parks & Playgrounds Budget Proposal:

There were no questions or comments about the parks and playgrounds budget.

f) Solid Waste Budget Proposal:

There were adjustments made to the contracts line. Some of the revenue from the transfer station was used so the budget went down. The contract with Monadnock Disposal is a five year contract. Recycling is becoming a huge problem. It is difficult for Monadnock Disposal to get rid of the recycling. Once our contract is up it is going to be considered solid waste.

g) Town Buildings Budget Proposal:

The budget is down \$36,000. Bob has asked Mike to have Leif go around to check thermostats. Dan Whitney stated that if the pricing structure on the dump stickers and punch cards are increase we should let people know how long has it been since there was a change in the pricing.

Committee Updates/Information/Communications

The Planning Board met last night and there wasn't much to discuss. The Separation Study group meets tomorrow. Karl said that the Rec Dept. met and Dan stated that the ice rink was ruining the tennis court. He would like to not have the ice rink this year. He also stated that last year it was under used.

Revenues and Expenses were discussed for the overall budget.

Bob made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Karl. Approved 3-0-0

Adjournment 7:22 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Christian Executive Secretary