

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

January 30, 2024

Lincoln Town Hall, Lincoln, NH

(video on YouTube) (approved)

ATTENDING: Chairman Mike Simons, Vice-Chairman Herb Gardner, Wayne Baltzer, Paul Beaudin, Tracey Brumlik, Dennis Ducharme, Brian Gallagher, Brent Hansma, Cindy Lloyd, Al Poulin, Jim Spanos, Becky Farnsworth, Carina Park
Absent: Ray D'Amante (excused), Selectperson Tammy Ham

Call to order: 5:01

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: "To approve minutes from January 25."

Motion: Herb, Second: Dennis Yes: 11 No: 0 Motion carries unanimously

Carina states that a Petition Warrant Article was received yesterday, and the Board of Selectmen will vote on it at tomorrow's meeting. Mike states that procedurally, we will wait for the BOS to vote before we vote on it. The Petition Warrant Article legally has to go on the warrant. This topic will be tabled until Thursday.

DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON OPERATING BUDGET TOTALS:

#1 EXECUTIVE: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$560,430.00, Herb, Second: Cindy

For: 11 Opposed: 1 Abstain: 0 Motion carries

#2 TOWN CLERK: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$45,712.00, Herb, Second: Dennis

For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

#2A TAX COLLECTOR: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$45,843.00, Herb, Second: Cindy

For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

#3 ELECTIONS: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$9,525. Herb, Second: Dennis

For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

#4 LEGAL: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$95,000.00, Herb, Second: Cindy

For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

#5 PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATION: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$1,661,214.00 Herb, Second: Dennis
For: 11 Opposed: 1 Abstain: 0 Motion carries

#6 PLANNING AND ZONING: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$202,223.00 Herb, Second: Cindy
For: 11 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 1 Motion carries

#7 TOWN HALL BUILDING: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$62,950.00 Herb, Second: Dennis
For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

#8 CEMETARY: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$29,230.00 Herb, Second: Cindy
For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

#9 INSURANCE: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$210,248.00 Herb, Second: Dennis
Discussion: Brent asks that for next year other deductibles be considered.
For: 11 Opposed: 1 Abstain: 0 Motion carries

#10 POLICE: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$1,858,878.00, Herb, Second: Dennis
Discussion: Al states that he'd like to see the expenditures itemized for next year. Carina states that the accounting software doesn't show those specific categories, however a bulk report can be created for the year for the departments you have questions about.
For: 10 Opposed: 2 Abstain: 0 Motion carries

#11 FIRE: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$248,184.00, Herb, Second: Brent
Discussion: Al asks about the average on-call time. Carina states as an example, if an employee had 510 hours and had showed up for 164 calls, dividing that he would average 3 hours on a call. The on-call time is skewed, due to labor laws requiring he be paid for 2 hours minimum even if he's only there for 30 minutes.
For: 11 Opposed: 1 Abstain: 0 Motion carries

#12 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$13,370.00, Herb, Second: Cindy
For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

#13 PUBLIC WORKS: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$395,773.00 Herb, Second: Dennis
For: 11 Opposed: 1 Abstain: 0 Motion carries

#14 STREET LIGHTS: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$69,00.00, Herb, Second: Dennis
Discussion: All questions if that will be enough based on electrical rates. Carina states that it will, due to the increase being .04 cents, not .07 cents.
For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

#15 SOLID WASTE: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$531,911.00, Herb, Second: Dennis
For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

#16 SEWAGE DISPOSAL: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$319,150.00, Herb, Second: Cindy
For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

#17 WATER: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$488,848.00, Herb, Second: Dennis
For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

#18 COMMUNITY BUILDING: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$247,524.00, Herb, Second: Dennis
For: 10 Opposed: 2 Abstain: 0 Motion carries

#19 HEALTH APPROPRIATIONS: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$174,404.00, Herb, Second: Cindy
For: 11 Opposed: 1 Abstain: 0 Motion carries

#20 WELFARE: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$10,00.00, Herb, Second: Dennis
Discussion: All questions if this is enough. Carina states that Jane is very resourceful in working with other groups in town. We are allowed to overspend on this budget. Dennis states that Jane works with businesses in town, who donate furniture and money etc. to offset this budget. For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

#21 RECREATION: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)
Motion to approve and recommend at \$338,375.00, Herb, Second: Cindy
For: 11 Opposed: 1 Abstain: 0 Motion carries

#22 LIBRARY: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$181,917.00, Herb, Second: Dennis

Discussion: Mike states that the amount recommended was the BOS total, which includes a 4% increase in wages not the 6% asked for by the Library Trustees. Brian states that the Trustees can increase the part-time wages and we will then probably see this increase in next year's budget. Carina states that the BOS decided that if there was a position that needed to have a wage increase it needed to be looked at individually, not collectively and therefore gave a 4% increase to all employees. Carina states that the new cleaning contract went from \$19,500.00 to \$22,100.00, which would the total to \$184,517.00.

Motion to increase the total to \$184,517.00, Tracey, Second: Brent. Carina states that the BOS have not voted on that amount yet. Brian states that since the library underspent last year, the Trustees could increase the pay using the surplus. Carina states that their surplus this year is \$8,153.00, which gives them plenty of room to increase the part-time wages by the \$2,400.00. Budget committee tables this budget until Thursday so the BOS can vote on the total first. Tracey withdraws the motion.

#23 PATRIOTIC PUPOSES: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$13,600.00, Herb, Second: Dennis

Discussion: Paul states that maybe this should be increased so we can have the fireworks on July 4th. Carina states that the total would double. She states that we would have to find another vendor on very short notice, have other meetings and go back to Woodstock to ok the dates and amounts. Mike states this is a one-year issue and it's not worth spending the extra money. Carina states that if the current vendor will not approve July 4th, 2025, then they will put it out to bid right away, but we need to expect to pay double.

For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

#24 LONG TERM: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$701,663.00, Herb, Second: Dennis

For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

#26 TAN INTEREST: Line items of budget listed with totals (see budget)

Motion to approve and recommend at \$1.00, Herb, Second: Cindy

For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

Due to tabling Library's budget being tabled until Thursday, the Totals for the OPERATING BUDGET and OFFSETTING REVENUE will also be tabled.

DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON CRF's/TRUST FUNDS:

SOLID WASTE: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$10,000.00, Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

FIRE TRUCK AND EQUIPMENT: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$220,000.00, Herb, Second: Al, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

REVALUATION: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$25,000.00, Herb, Second: Dennis. Discussion: Carina states the last revaluation was done in 2021 and the next will be done in 2026. For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

PUBLIC WORKS EQUIPMENT: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$111,194.00, Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

PD EQUIPMENT: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$100,000.00, Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

SEWER SYSTEM REHAB: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$305,000.00, Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

WATER SYSTEM REHAB: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$276,000.00, Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

ROAD AND STREET RECONSTRUCTION: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$148,000.00 Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

ENGINEERING AND PLANNING: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$5,000.00 Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

KAND REC AREA EQUIPMENT: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$60,000.00 Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

COMMUNITY CENTER: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$5,000.00, Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

CEMETERY MAINT EXP. TRUST: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$5,000.00, Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

PROPERTY AND BUILDING MAINT: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$331,000.00 Herb, Second: Al. Discussion: Al asks what lines increased. Carina states that the Fire Department, Kanc building, and Town Hall all increased. For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

EMPLOYEE SEPARATION: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$10,000.
Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

VILLAGE CENTER/RIVERFRONT PARK: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$20,000.00, Herb, Second: Dennis. Discussion: Paul asks for an update. Carina states that we received a Brown's Field Assessment Grant and now we are applying for a Brown's Field Cleanup Grant. We are working on an action plan for DES to help us get the grant. The clean-up will then give us the ability to use the property. Paul states the amount was cut due to having to deal with remediation first. For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$2,000.00, Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

LIBRARY BUILDING: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$28,000.00, Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

FIRE TRUCK AND EQUIPMENT: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$0, Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

Motion to accept the Subtotal of CRF/Trust Funds at \$1,661,194.00, Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

DISCUSSION AND VOTING ON SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES:

PD VEHICLES (NEW CRUISER): Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$62,000.00 Herb, Second: Dennis. Discussion: Al asks if that includes the lights. Carina states that it's for everything. Carina states we have 7 cruisers. For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

HIGHWAY BLOCK GRANT: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$30,000.00 Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

LIBRARY FRONT STEPS: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$62,000.00 Herb, Second: Cindy. Discussion: This was the only estimate received. Cindy states there is a great liability in not doing the stairs. Paul makes a motion to amend the amount to \$30,000.00, Second: Brent. Discussion: Wayne states that the amount was already decreased from \$70,000.00 to \$62,000.00 based on using granite instead of concrete. Paul states more money could be taken from other budgets if the project ends up being more. Other estimates need to be obtained. Carina states the stairs need to be done this year. For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

TOWN BUILDINGS AUDIO/VIDEO/SERVEILLANCE: Motion to recommend funding in the amount of \$ 2,500.00 Herb, Second: Dennis, For: 12 Opposed: 0 Abstain: 0 Motion carries unanimously

Voting on the Grand Total will be tabled until Thursday.

MOTION: "To adjourn at 6:47."

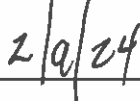
Motion: Paul

Second: Herb

Motion carries unanimously



Chairman Mike Simons



Date:

