

LINCOLN BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S

**APPROVED**

MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2022 – 10:00AM

LINCOLN TOWN HALL - 148 MAIN STREET, LINCOLN, NH

**(THE RECORDING OF THIS MEETING CAN BE FOUND ON YOUTUBE)**

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**Lincoln Board of Selectmen Present:** Chairman, OJ Robinson, Vice Chair, Tamra Ham and Selectman Jack Daly

**Staff Present:** Town Manager, Carina Park

**Public Present via Zoon:** Fire Chief Ron Beard

**Public Present:** *There was no public present*

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## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Robinson called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

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## **II. BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S BUDGET WORKSESSION**

The Board began their work session discussing the replacement of the Fire Department's Engine 2 pumper which is on the CIP schedule for replacement in 2025. The Fire Department had obtained three (3) separate quotes on the replacement of this truck which ranged from \$701k to \$902k. The Board agreed to *not* use CIP funds (these funds can be put towards other vehicles in the CIP) and to reach out to banking institutions for bond information. Finance Director, Johnna Hart has reached out to the Bank of NH and Northway Bank, and is currently waiting to hear back from both banks. Chairman Robinson suggested a warrant article in the amount of \$760k to fund the purchase of the truck.

The Board reviewed the library wages and Director Carol Riley's proposed wage increases for her staff (Library Director 8% wage increase, and \$2 per hour increase [14%] for Library employees). Selectman Ham had some reservations about the % of the wage increases, as this is not being offered across the board for all employees (the library is governed by the Library Trustees).

The Board discussed the Police Department's Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) and the new School Resource Officer (SRO) position. The SRO position is funded in part by a Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grant and Linwood School, and the remainder is funded by the Town of Lincoln. The COPS grant will cover payroll and personnel administration (Health, Retirement etc.) costs over a period of 3-years with a 75% reimbursement the 1<sup>st</sup> year; 50% the 2<sup>nd</sup> year, and 25% the 3<sup>rd</sup> year. A fourth year of employment is required by the grant in which the Town will be required to cover 100% of the costs.

Robinson noted that the overall increase in this years' operating budget from last years is \$316k (+4 ¼%) and the revenue increase (from departments) is up \$98k (therefore the *actual* total net increase in the operating budget will be \$218k [-3%]). Robinson was confident in presenting this budget to the budget committee.

The Board discussed the proposed Police/Fire Safety Services building and the \$24M estimated project cost. The Board agrees that this is an exorbitant amount of money, and Selectman Ham feels that if they could obtain a grant writer that could help the Town apply for some of the money available for projects such as this, it could substantially reduce the town's burden of costs for this project. The Board also discussed what it would entail to put an addition onto Town Hall, and Carina explained that she had this discussion with the Architects and questioned what it would cost for a *conceptual design* for the expansion of Town Hall (approximately \$20k).

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Robinson proposed that they research the prospect of building a 12k square foot Police Department on this same piece of land (Mansion Hill) for a cost of \$7M, and then bring this before the voters this year, and at the same time, research how to add on to the Fire Department or build an auxiliary building. Robinson noted that the Town's current long-term debt budget is \$571K, and if they take out a bond for \$7.2M this will essentially double the long-term debt. Robinson noted that this is cutting it tight, however, the fact remains that the Police Department *needs* a new facility. Robinson also proposed building a secondary fire station up on Route 3 where the old salt shed sits (new building would sit in front of the salt shed), and adding \$1.2M to the \$7.2M bond (\$8.4M) and getting both of these projects done. Robinson agreed to meet with both the Police and Fire Chief to get their thoughts on scaling down the project from \$24M, and coming up with something comparable that meets their department(s) needs, and is fiscally reasonable.

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### **III. NON-PUBLIC Session Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3:(III) (c) Citizen Reputation**

**MOTION: "To go into Non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 (III) (c)."**

**Motion: OJ Robinson**

**Second: Tamra Ham**

**Motion carries.**

The BOS went into Non-public session at 11:30 a.m.

**MOTION: "To re-enter public session."**

**Motion: Jack Daly**

**Second: Tamra Ham**

**All in favor.**

The Board reconvened public session at 11:55 a.m.

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### **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to attend to, the Board made the following motion:

**MOTION: "To adjourn."**

**Motion: OJ Robinson**

**Second: Jack Daly**

**Motion carries.**

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane Leslie



Approval Date: January 17, 2023

**Lincoln Board of Selectmen:**

  
Chairman O.J. Robinson  
Tamra Ham  
Jack Daly