

Selectmen's Work Session Monday, October 17, 2022

The following meeting was held in the upstairs conference room at Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Martha Eldridge, Susan Simpson and Jonathan Smith. Matt Sawyer Jr., Town Administrator was also present, and recorded the minutes. Public Works Director TJ Eldridge was present.

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM.

Discussion:

TJ presented the Government Building budget, and explained that it went down overall, and specifically in the Dam Maintenance line due to the fact that we don't have to do any engineering studies this year. Smith motioned to approve the Government Buildings' proposed 2023 budget \$287,555. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

TJ presented the Highway Department's proposed 2023 budget and discussion ensued. Smith motioned to approve the Highway Department's proposed 2023 budget at \$1,398,350. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

TJ presented the Transfer Station's proposed 2023 budget and discussion ensued. Smith motioned to approve the Transfer Station's proposed 2023 budget at \$589,206. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

TJ presented the Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance Department's proposed 2023 budget and discussion ensued. Smith motioned to approve the proposed 2023 budget at \$274,291. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

TJ presented the Recreation Department's proposed 2023 budget and discussion ensued. Smith motioned to approve the proposed 2023 budget at \$216,855. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

TJ informed the group that if the Town waits until Town Meeting, we will not get a new six-wheeler in 2023 and may not be able to acquire one until as late as 2025 due to supply chain issues, according to several dealers he contacted. TJ and Sawyer had edited the 10-year highway equipment plan to buy a truck immediately with \$100,000 from the Highway CRF and the rest from ARPA. In following years, the warrant articles will simply fund the CRF and then the BOS have the authority as agents to expend, can approve the purchases without waiting for Town Meeting. The excel spreadsheet showed that the plan can be done with level funding the CRF annually, or close to it. TJ and Smith reiterated that truck 8 is from 2008, far past its lifespan and that it has become an unsafe money pit. Smith motioned to approve TJ to commence the purchasing process of a six-wheeler dump truck, using CRF funds and ARPA as necessary. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

TJ asked for a nonpublic session regarding personnel. At 2:48 PM Smith motioned to enter into a nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3, II(a) for personnel issues. Simpson seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Smith – YES
Eldridge – YES
Simpson – YES

At 3:16 PM Smith motioned to re-enter the public session. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0. Smith motioned to seal the minutes to the nonpublic session. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Kellie Skehan presented the TC/TC Department's 2023 proposed budget. There was a discussion regarding the hiring of additional personnel to bring the staffing back to 3 full-time employees. Smith motioned to approve the proposed budget of \$414,475 for the TC/TC Department. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Skehan presented the Elections Department 2023 proposed budget and discussion ensued. Smith motioned to approve \$6750. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Sawyer said the Supervisor's of the Checklist would like to level fund the Registration Department for 2023. Smith motioned to approve the Registration budget of \$5,615. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Smith motioned to approve a revised Recreation Department budget proposal of \$219,355. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Being no further input Smith motioned to recess until 4:15 PM in the gym. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Jonathan H. Smith, Chairman

Martha B. Eldridge, Selectman

Susan J. Simpson, Selectman