

Selectmen's Work Session

Monday, November 27, 2023

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

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

Discussion:

Smith motioned to enter two consecutive nonpublic sessions, the first under RSA 91-A:3, II(a) and the seconded under 91-A:3, II(c). Simpson seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Simpson – Yes

Smith- Yes

At 2:54 PM Smith motioned to reenter the public meeting. Simpson seconded and the motion passed 2-0. Smith motioned to seal the minutes to nonpublic sessions 1 and 2. Simpson seconded and the motion passed 2-0.

Smith said he wanted to revisit a few items on the 2024 budget to reduce the burden on the taxpayers. Smith motioned to reduce the paving warrant article from \$450,000 to \$300,000. Simpson seconded and the motion passed 2-0. Smith motioned to approve a \$75,000 warrant article to be added to the Property Cleanup ETF. Simpson seconded and the motion passed 2-0. Sawyer clarified the new warrant article total is \$1.125 million and Smith agreed.

Smith motioned to add \$75,000 to the 2024 Revenue Work Sheet in the Other category for the recovery of property cleanup costs through court. Simpson seconded the motion passed 2-0. Smith motioned to increase the use of Fund Balance to Reduce Taxes on the 2024 Revenue Work Sheet from \$250,000 to \$500,000. Simpson seconded and the motioned passed unanimously. Smith presented the MS-737 that Sawyer had drafted with the total amount to be raised by taxation of \$5,344,035 representing a 2.45% increase over the previous year. Smith motioned to approve the MS-737. Simpson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Sawyer said he received an inquiry regarding a new trash business starting up that is based out of Town. The owner had requested a waiver on the dumping fees. The Board said anyone with a commercial trash route has to pay \$200 a ton. Sawyer mentioned that he didn't believe that policy was in writing anywhere and asked for a board vote to solidify and formalize it. Smith motioned to enact a policy that any commercial trash collection business has to get weighed and pay \$200/ton for trash disposal. Simpson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Smith motioned to recess until 4:15 PM in the gym. Simpson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Jonathan H. Smith, Chairman

Susan J. Simpson, Selectman

Martha B. Eldridge, Selectman