

**OSSIPEE BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
December 1, 2021**

Meeting recorded by Angela Eldridge for Minutes summarized by Laura Nash, Budget Committee Recording Secretary, amendments are noted by ***bold/italic*** type.

Call to Order: Chairman Joe Goss called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance – was recited by all attendees.

Attendance by Roll Call: – Joe Goss, Donna Gridley, Lynne Parker, Donna Sargent, Connie Billings, and Dallas Emery.

Absent: Roland Millette, Cameron Quigley, Jonathan Smith (Selectmen's Rep.), Matt Sawyer, Jr, Town Administrator, Andrea Picard, TJ Eldridge, Laura Nash, BC - Recording Secretary and WOFP Representative

**2022 Town Budget Proposal by Department:** Chairman Goss stated all large budgets will be addressed at the next meeting.

**DEPARTMENT BUDGET PROPOSALS**

**Conservation Agent:** is now under the Conservation Commission

**Selectmen's Salary:** in the amount of \$19,920.00

A **Motion** by Emery to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$19,920.00 for the Selectmen's Salary. Parker seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Town Clerk/Tax Collector:** in the amount of \$316,400.00

A **Motion** by Parker to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$316,400.00 for the Town Clerk/Tax Collector. Emery seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Elections:** in the amount of \$9,919.00

A **Motion** by Parker to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$9,919.00 for the Elections. Sargent seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Voter Registration:** in the amount of \$5,615.00

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$5,516.00 for the Voter Registration. Emery seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Treasurer:** in the amount of \$8,230.00

A **Motion** by Parker to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$8,230.00 for the Treasurer. Gridley seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Selectmen's Office:** in the amount of \$841,478.00

Pending until the next meeting

**Economic Development:** in the amount of \$5,000.00

A **Motion** by Parker to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$5,000.00 for the Economic Development.

Emery seconded. Discussion: Billings noted they have \$4,500.00 remaining from last year. Gridley commented the \$5,000.00 from last year was not expensed, so it will go into the General Fund. Discussion ensued over the need for \$5,000.00 in funding this year.

A **Motion** by Gridley to amend the 2022 proposed budget to \$2,500.00 for the Economic Development. Sargent seconded. No further discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Ossipee Lake Dam Authority:** is now under the Conservation Commission

**Legal:** in the amount of \$40,000.00

A **Motion** by Parker to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$40,000.00 for the Legal. Gridley seconded.

Discussion: Billings inquired about how much was expensed and discussion ensued. No further discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Planning Board:** in the amount of \$44,950.00

A **Motion** by Billings to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$44,950.00 for the Planning Board. Gridley seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**ZBA:** in the amount of \$19,235.00

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$19,235.00 for the ZBA. Billings seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Government Buildings:** in the amount of \$238,555.00

Pending until the next meeting

**Trustee of Trust Funds:** in the amount of \$6,091.00

A **Motion** by Parker to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$6,091.00 for the Trustee of Trust Funds. Emery seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Cemeteries:** in the amount of \$43,045.00

A **Motion** by Billings to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$43,045.00 for the Cemeteries. Parker seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Insurance:** in the amount of \$143,000.00

A **Motion** by Parker to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$143,000.00 for the Insurance. Gridley seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Police Department:** in the amount of \$1,203,600.00

Pending until the next meeting

**Police Special Duty:** in the amount of \$25,000.00

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$25,000.00 for the Police Special Duty. Parker seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Dog Officer:** in the amount of \$14,350.00

A brief discussion over why the reduction in requested amount over previous years ensued.

A **Motion** by Parker to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$14,350.00 for the Dog Officer. Emery seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Fire Warden:** in the amount of \$21,995.00

A **Motion** by Billings to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$21,995.00 for the Fire Warden. Emery seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Highway:** in the amount of \$1,240,050.00

Pending until the next meeting

**Transfer Station:** in the amount of \$614,131.00

Pending until the next meeting

**Outside Agencies:**

**Tri County CAP (Energy Assistance Program):** in the amount of \$13,000.00

A **Motion** by Parker to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$13,000.00 for the Tri County Cap (Energy Assistance Program.) Gridley seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Caregivers of S. Carroll County:** in the amount of \$3,000.00

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$3,000.00 for the Caregivers of Southern Carroll County. Parker seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**End 68 Hours of Hunger:** in the amount of \$7,000.00

Discussion ensued over if the Selectmen increased the amount by \$2,000.00, it was determined the original request was for \$7,000.00. Sargent discussed the obligation of keeping the daycare going, if 68 Hours of Hunger has to stop operations.

A **Motion** by Emery to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$7,000.00 for the End 68 Hours of Hunger Gridley seconded. No further discussion. Billings Abstained. All other voted to approve. **Motion Passed 5-0-1.**

**Freedom Food Pantry:** in the amount of \$4,000.00

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$4,000.00 for the Freedom Food Pantry. Parker seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Kingswood Youth Center:** in the amount of \$5,000.00.

A **Motion** by Billings to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$5,000.00 for the Kingswood Youth Center. Gridley seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**L.I.F.E. Ministries:** in the amount of \$6,000.00

A **Motion** by Parker to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$6,000.00 for the LIFE Ministries. Gridley seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Green Mountain Conservation Group:** in the amount of \$2,000.00

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$2,000.00 for the Green Mountain Conservation Group. Parker seconded.

Discussion: Goss questioned what service is Green Mountain Conservation Group providing to Ossipee for this amount. Gridley explained that Green Mountain Conservation Group does all the water quality testing for the Ossipee lakes, rivers and streams. No further discussion. All other voted to approve. Emery opposed. Billings abstained. **Motion Passed 4-1-1.**

**Northern Human Services:** in the amount of \$4,425.00

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$4,425.00 for the Northern Human Services. Sargent seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**OCC - Elderly Nutrition:** in the amount of \$20,000.00

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$20,000.00 for the OCC Elderly Nutrition. Billings seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**OCC Day Care:** in the amount of \$7,000

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$7,000.00 for the OCC Day Care. Billings seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Ossipee Children's Fund:** in the amount of \$18,000.00.

A **Motion** by Billings to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$18,000.00 for the Ossipee Children's Fund. Gridley seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Ossipee Historical Society:** in the amount of \$4,000.00

A **Motion** by Billings to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$4000.00 for the Ossipee Historical Society. Gridley seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**School's Out Program:** in the amount of \$45,000.00.

A **Motion** by Emery not to accept the 2022 proposed budget of \$45,000.00 for the School's Out Program. Emery was informed that a motion needs to be made to discuss the request before any other motions can be made.

A **Motion** by Sargent to discuss the 2022 proposed budget of \$45,000.00 for the School's Out Program. Gridley seconded.

Discussion: Goss suggested to zero the amount requested. They have funds remaining from last year. Goss commented it's a lot of money for the amount of children being serviced.

A **Motion** by Goss to amend the amount being requested to zero (\$0.00) for the 2022 proposed budget for the School's Out Program. Parker seconded.

Discussion ensued over having the funds raised on the floor at the annual town meeting. But Goss noted under law the funds cannot be raised from a floor vote. Discussion ensued.

Gridley commented that this program has no succession planning to fill the pending vacancy of Jennifer Berkowitz.

Goss commented the town is generally funding a program that is not a non-profit, which essentially is funding a private business.

Parker suggested creating a chart to show the town's people the cost compared to other groups showing where their tax dollars are going per child.

Goss suggested holding off this year because the program has \$36,000.00 remaining from last years budget and if the towns people really want the program back next year, the Budget Committee will reconsider it next year. Goss and Emery commented it's a baby-sitting service until the parents get out of work. Discussion ensued over giving OCC the funding for after-school programs. Sargent took offense when Jennifer Berkowitz said no, when asked if there were any other programs for after-school kids. Even though OCC was operating an after-school program at the same time. Discussion ensued over the amount of money listed from private donors and other organizations.

Goss called for a vote to amend the requested amount to zero (\$0.00) No further discussion. Billings Abstained. All other voted to approve. **Motion Passed 5-0-1.**

Goss referred back to the first motion on the table.

A **Motion** by Sargent to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$45,000.00 for the School's Out Program. Gridley seconded. No discussion. Approve – 0, Opposed – 5, Billings: Abstained – 1 **Motion passed 0-5-1.**

**Starting Point:** in the amount of \$7,611.00

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$7,611.00 for the Starting Point. Parker seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**White Mountain Comm Health:** in the amount of \$0.00

A **Motion** by Billings to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$0.00 for the White Mountain Community Health. Sargent seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Central NH VNA & Hospice:** in the amount of \$14,000.00

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$14,000.00 for the Central NH VNA & Hospice. Parker seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Children Unlimited:** in the amount of \$3,000.00

Discussion ensued over services provided to Ossipee residents.

A **Motion** by Emery to amend the 2022 proposed budget to zero (\$0.00) for Children Unlimited. Billings seconded. No further discussion. Gridley Abstained. All other voted to approve. **Motion Passed 5-0-1.**

A **Motion** by Billings to oppose the 2022 proposed budget of \$3,000.00 for the Children Unlimited. Emery seconded. No discussion. Approve – 5, Opposed – 0, Gridley: Abstained – 1 **Motion passed 5-0-1.**

**White Horse Addiction Center:** in the amount of \$5,000.00

A **Motion** by Parker to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$5,000.00 for the White Horse Addiction Center. Emery seconded.

Discussion: Emery opposes the proposed budget of \$5,000.00. Their budget is well over a million dollars and believes they don't need the funding. They receive Federal, County, Local and private funding. Services are being provided to less but they're requesting the same amount of funding. Discussion ensued.

A **Motion** by Emery to amend the 2022 proposed budget to zero (\$0.00) for the White Horse Addiction Center. Billings seconded. No discussion. Emery, and Billings: Approve – 3, Parker and Sargent: Opposed – 1, Goss and Gridley: Abstained – 2. **Motion fails 2-2-2.**

A **Motion** by Sargent to amend the 2022 proposed budget to \$2,500.00 for the White Horse Addiction Center. Billings seconded. No discussion. All other voted to approve. Emery: Opposed. **Motion Passed 5-1-0.**

**NH Lakes - Lake Host Program:** in the amount of \$2,500.00

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$2,500.00 for NH Lakes - Lake Host Program. Billings seconded.

Discussion: Billings questioned who runs the program. Gridley commented its through the Ossipee Lake Alliance. Krystal Eldridge commented Ned Kucera runs the program through NH Lakes for Ossipee, Freedom and Effingham.

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$2,500.00 for NH Lakes - Lake Host Program. Billings seconded. No further discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Ambulance:** in the amount of \$399,250.00

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$399,250.00 for the Ambulance. Parker seconded. No discussion. Sargent Abstained. All other voted to approve. **Motion Passed 5-0-1.**

**Emergency Management:** in the amount of \$6,700.00

A **Motion** Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$6,700.00 for Emergency Management. Parker seconded.

Discussion ensued over the purpose of this fund is for disaster relief not welfare funding. Sargent was informed that the Emergency Shelters designated area for West Ossipee is the two Fire Stations, Ossipee Corner is the Fire Station and Center Ossipee is the Town Hall and the School.

Goss called for a vote on the 2022 proposed budget of \$6,700.00 for Emergency Management. No further discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Welfare - General Assistance:** in the amount of \$40,000.00

A **Motion** by Parker to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$40,000.00 for the Welfare - General Assistance. Gridley seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Recreation Department:** in the amount of \$174,861.00

Pending until the next meeting

**Library:** in the amount of \$228,641.00

Pending until the next meeting

**Patriotic Purposes:** in the amount of \$2,000.00

A **Motion** by Gridley to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$2,000.00 for the Patriotic Purposes. Parker seconded. Discussion ensued over increasing the amount to \$2,500.00.

A **Motion** by Billings to amend the 2022 proposed budget to \$2,500.00 for Patriot Purposes. Emery seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Conservation Commission:** in the amount of \$24,301.00

A **Motion** by Parker to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$24,301.00 for the Conservation Commission. Gridley seconded.

Discussion: Billings disagrees with including the Conservation Agent/Timber Monitor and Dam Authority's budgets into the Conservation Commissions budget. Neither positions hold any authority over the Conservation Commission. Billings noted that Sawyer previously stated that the DRA said they should be combined. Billings would like to see the written proof from DRA where these departments should all be combined. Billings stated both departments should stand alone.

A **Motion** Goss to table discussion on Conservation Commissions 2022 proposed budget until the Committee receives written proof from DRA why these departments should all be combined. Gridley seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Interest on Line of Credit:** in the amount of \$10,000.00



A **Motion** by Billings to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$10,000.00 for the Interest on Line of Credit. Parker seconded. No discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion Passed 6-0.**

**Vehicle and Equipment Maintenance:** in the amount of \$254,356.00

Pending until the next meeting

**Water Dept.:** in the amount of \$215,680.00

Pending until the next meeting

**Sewer Dept.:** in the amount of \$226,350.00

Pending until the next meeting

**Warrant Articles:**

Pending until the next meeting

**Projected Revenues:**

A **Motion** by Emery to approve the 2022 proposed budget of \$2,981,030.00 for the Projected Revenues. Gridley seconded. No discussion. All other voted to approve. Billings: Opposed. **Motion Passed 5-1-0.**

**Next Meeting:**

**January 19, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the Freight House:** Finalize Budget, Warrant Articles and Fire Departments

**Any Other Business that May Come Before the Committee:**

None Heard.

**Adjournment:**

A **Motion** by Gridley to adjourn the meeting. Emery seconded. No further discussion. A unanimous vote was taken. **Motion passed.** The meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM.

Minutes approved by majority vote of the Board on

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Joe Goss, Chairman  
Budget Committee

\_\_\_\_\_  
Donna Gridley, Vice-Chair  
*(In the absence of the Chairman)*