

Draft Meeting Minutes, January 4th, 2023

Wednesday, January 04, 2023

8:11 AM

Meeting called to order at: 6:36 pm by John Arico

Budget Committee Members:

Bill McKinney
Frank Weber
John Arico - Chairman pro tem
Kim Roberge
Lorri Hayes- Secretary
Sean Mamone
Sheila Sturm
Tim Berry
Howard Brown - Selectboard Representative

Attendees:

Bill McKinney
John Arico
Lorri Hayes
Sean Mamone
Howard Brown - Selectboard Representative
Frank Weber
Kim Roberge
George Torres- via Zoom
Joan Cleary
Tim Berry

Absent:

Sheila Sturm

Agenda:

1. Meeting call to order- JA call the meeting to order at 6:36 pm
2. Opening public comments- no public comments
3. Interview Library Trustees and Director- tabled until next meeting,
 - a. Entertain motion to table this to a future meeting as Invitations to the Library did not go out- JA motioned to table this presentation until 1/11 under unanimous consent. KR and SM objected. Voice vote. All in favor except KR and SM. Motion carries
4. Review and acceptance of minutes from December 14th- BM motion and TB seconds, motion approved.
5. Review and acceptance of minutes from December 21st- JA one correction, LIDAR for the cemetery line item instead of radar. JA motions to approve with correction, TB seconds, motion approved.

6. Review of action items:
 - a. JA ask Cemetery Trustee member Allison Miller if the cemetery trust fund can be used for the sonar evaluations request in this year's budget? – Cemetery Trustees agreed to move it to trust fund. Done
 - b. Everyone will review the budget again prior to January 4. Send any questions to JA- No questions received. Done
 - c. JA will ask DPW about line item 431256 to determine if the lane/ roadway markings increase will be there each year, is it perpetual or only this year? What streets will receive the lane marking this year? bcrosby@montvernonnh.us – Will complete soon.
 - d. JA will ask DPW about the ground's maintenance and tree maintenance line item 431450. There was a proposed 12.5% increase this year and it has increased each year, but we do not know the plan for this increase. Can you please tell us the plan as to how the increased funds will be used? The committee noticed that the line has increased in the 2021-2023 budgets by 100%. Are we earmarking more roads to be mowed? Will complete soon.
 - e. JC will ask the library to provide a break down by position of the wages, health insurance, retirement, etc.- JA will now take on this action item and ask that they attend on 1/11. Will complete soon.
 - f. JC will invite the library to the next meeting on 1/4/23- JA will now take on this action item and ask that they attend on 1/11.
 - g. JC will invite the fire department to the meeting on 1/11/23- JC has made the invitation. Fire department unavailable until 1/18/23
7. New business- TB presented Library Trustees: the other board in town. TB explained that the library trustees have special laws and privileges through NH state law, RSA 202: A. These laws and privileges allow the library trustee broad powers over its budget and other matters. The library trustees are the other board because unlike other boards or committees in town, they have full discretionary authority and can place its own budget on the warrant. There was some discussion regarding the document that TB shared including whether the select board could post the library's budget within its budget. LH questioned if it were legal for the selectboard to place the library's budget within its budget. Some raised a question as to whether the selectman's staff had the authority to provide payroll services to the library trustees. BM shared that the town could have authority to provide these services if the library trustees so designate. (BM read from the NH Municipal Association -while library employees are not town employees for purposes of the terms of their employment, the library trustees and the board of selectmen may agree that having payroll and benefits handled by the town's administrative staff makes better economic sense than having the library staff prepare separate payroll.) KR questioned if the library trustees were required to provide a budget to the selectboard because it is not the appropriate agency as is required by the law. BM and JA stated they believe the appropriate agency is the select board. After the discussion, the budget committee developed questions for the library trustees. The budget committee agreed to develop questions for the fire ward at the next meeting to determine if it were necessary for the fire marshal to attend the meeting on 1/18.
8. Closing public comment period- no public comment
9. Next meeting: January 11th, 6:30 PM, at the Town Hall
10. Meeting adjournment- 8:05 pm

Action Items

1. JA will send out a google drive map for everyone to review.
2. JA will invite the library trustees to 1/11/23 meeting.
3. JA will ask the library to provide additional information like the police department's report including:
 - a. An answer to how line item 45050 library appropriations is used with a breakdown of the full accounting from last year
 - b. A wage and benefit breakdown for each employee including the hourly wage, salary, health insurance, and retirement benefits
 - c. A service hours breakdown for each employee including the number of hours they work each week.
 - d. How are hours tracked for each employee?
4. JC will invite the fire wards to the 1/18/23 meeting
5. JA will ask the Cemetery trustees when they expect to begin using the cemetery above the post office
6. JA will ask the Heritage Commission if it is intending to also issue a warrant on the ballot this year
7. JA will ask DPW about line item 431256 to determine if the lane/ roadway markings increase will be there each year, is it perpetual or only this year? What streets will receive the lane marking this year? bcrosby@montvernonnh.us – Will complete soon.
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