



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2019**

PRESENT: JON OSBORNE, SELECTMAN; JAN SNYDER, SELECTMAN; FREDERICK W HIPPLER, CHAIRMAN; SHERRY BURDICK, SELECTMAN; VICE CHAIRMAN MEANEY.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Naomi L. Bolton
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Naomi L Bolton

GUESTS: Donna Osborne; James Drury; Tom Clow; Beth Rouse, Finance Administrator; Benji Knapp, DPW Director; Robert Vezina, Fire Chief; Dennis Aubin

Chairman Hippler called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM, and then led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

DEPARTMENT HEAD/ COMMITTEE ITEMS: None

2019 WARRANT – REVIEW CHANGES FROM PUBLIC HEARING: Town Administrator Bolton handed out a revised draft that included the obvious changes discussed and agreed upon at the public hearing last Monday. Chairman Hippler, Selectman Osborne and Town Administrator Bolton attended the Finance Committee meeting on January 17th to listen to the deliberations and see if there are any changes the Board would like to see. Tentative voting took place at the Finance Committee so that a better sense of what might be supported and what may not. Chairman Hippler proceeded down through the draft handout dated 1-21-19, article by article, reviewing comments from the public hearing held on January 14th, as well as any comments that the Finance Committee had. At the end of each article, the Board would decide if changes were needed or if the article was to be placed on the warrant. Each article was read by Chairman Hippler; the position of the Finance Committee at this time was shared; as well as any comment made at the public hearing. After any discussion the Board was asked for a decision of putting it on the ballot or not. Article 3 – Road Preservation and Rehabilitation Bond; Article 5 – Non-union 3% raises; Article 6 - \$1/hour – DPW raise; Article 7 - 2 Full-Time Fire Personnel; Article 8 - Fire-Standby Pay; Article 9 - ACO; Article 10 - SRO; Article 11 - 1 Full-Time Police Officer; Article 12 - Library article; Article 13 - Cruiser; Article 14 - Fire Chief's car; Article 15 - Fire Department Boat; Article 16 - Thermal Cameras and Article 17 - 10-Wheel Dump Truck were all passed onto the warrant with very little discussion.

Article 17 – skid steer for Transfer Station. DPW Director Benji Knapp stated that he has heard that there was some mention of the option to lease the \$50,000 for the skid steer. He checked out the lease option and the interest cost for the lease would be \$7,000. Director Knapp felt that was not a wise investment to pay interest. He further pointed out that it is his understanding

that by borrowing/leasing this piece of equipment could affect the bond rating for the road reconstruction bond because you would now have another outstanding payment. The Board agreed to pass this article onto the warrant as written.

The rest of the articles: Article 19 – Road Reconstruction CRF; Article 20 – Bridge Reconstruction; Article 21 – Parks & Recreation survey; Article 22 – Safety Complex Roof; Article 23 – Cy-Pre for the Cemetery; Article 24 – Fireworks; Article 25 – Licensed Forester; Article 26 – Town Forest Lands; Article 27 – tax deeded auction (Bedard); Article 28 – land only tax deeded property; and Article 29 – petition for Chase Park were moved onto the warrant as written.

Chairman Hippler then went back to Article 4 – Operating Budget for discussion. At the Finance Committee there were suggestions made with regard to possible cuts to the proposed budget. The cuts ranged from a couple of specific items to a suggestion of over \$200,000 to get it below the default. Chairman Hippler stated the one that was mentioned was the gravel in the DPW budget for gravel road maintenance. The Board felt that a placeholder of \$1,000 should be left. DPW Director Knapp stated that he could support that as long as there is support in the road bond and road reconstruction article. The glass crushing in the Transfer Station budget was discussed. The Board felt that meeting in the middle and keeping \$7,500, which is half could go a long way to crushing some glass. Especially when the State mandates that we have to get rid of it. The part time Police records clerk was mentioned, particularly as it has not been filled for a couple of years. The Board supported taking \$6,500 out but leaving the \$91 to keep the line open. Those 3 reductions represent \$55,000 of cuts, dropping the proposed increase from 2.75% to 1.8%. Selectman Osborne suggested taking a second look at the Police overtime line. The Board felt that being full staffed shortly, plus a part time officer that can fill in will be helpful, therefore overtime should be minimal. The rest of the articles pertaining to the police department pass. After looking at what was spent in 2018 and prior years, that \$100,000 could work. The Board agreed to reduce the overtime by \$15,000 to \$100,000. Vice Chairman Meaney stated that he felt that the Board should talk about taking the \$10,000 from legal. It was noted that currently we have 1 known case in front of us, which is vastly improved from prior years. After some discussion the Board agreed to reduce the legal by \$10,000. James Drury suggested that the Board look at training lines. Vice Chairman Meaney stated that a lack of training could be very costly if it's not done. The Board felt that was about all the cuts that could be made without sacrificing services.

The total reductions added up to \$80,000. This makes the operating budget a total of \$6,116,300, which represents a 1.4% increase over the 2018 approved budget (default budget).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: These were tabled for tonight.

MANIFEST: Chairman Hippler moved. Vice Chairman Meaney seconded:

To order the Treasurer to sign the accounts payable and payroll checks dated January 24, 2019 included in the following manifests:

<i>Payroll Manifest</i>	<i>\$ 54,997.13 (monthly & weekly payroll)</i>
<i>2019 Accounts Payable Manifest</i>	<i>\$ 39,965.80</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>\$ 94,962.93</i>

Passed: 5-0-0

GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS & MAINTENANCE PROJECTS: Town Administrator Bolton explained that this list of items hasn't changed much since last meetings, as the warrant and budgets have taken up the majority of time.

Clinton Grove under Pinning: Selectman Burdick informed the Board that she spoke with a timber framer who might be interested in providing a quote and doing the work in the spring.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: Town Administrator Bolton again not much has moved on this list due to the priority being the 2019 warrant articles and budget.

BOS Schedule for January Meetings: 7th; 14th; 21st; 28th.

Public Hearing: The public hearing for budget, warrant articles, and DPW bond is at 6:45PM on January 14th.

Finance Committee Meetings: Thursday, Jan 24th @ 7:00 PM. Town Administrator Bolton will post as joint meeting for Board to attend.

CORRESPONDENCE & OTHER BUSINESS

Narratives for Mailer: Chairman Hippler stated that when it comes time for the Board to do the mailer and provide purpose statements, he would like to have the Board of Fire wards do the narratives for their articles. The Board agreed.

Public Comment: Chairman Hippler stated that he is going to preface the public comment section with a statement to let the speaker know that only factual questions will receive responses; rumors and false statements will not be replied to.

NONPUBLIC

Chairman Hippler moved, Vice Chairman Meaney seconded to enter into nonpublic session @ 8:19 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3II (a & c). A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Osborne – yes; Selectman Snyder – yes; Chairman Hippler – yes; Selectman Burdick – yes; Vice Chairman Meaney - yes. Passed 5-0-0

Chairman Hippler moved, Vice Chairman Meaney seconded to exit this nonpublic session @ 8:54 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Osborne – yes; Selectman Snyder – yes; Chairman Hippler – yes; Selectman Burdick – yes; Vice Chairman Meaney - yes. Passed 5-0-0

Chairman Hippler moved, Vice Chairman Meaney seconded to seal and restrict the minutes of this nonpublic session. Passed 5-0-0

Being there was no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Hippler moved to adjourn at 8:55 PM, Selectman Osborne seconded. Passed 5-0-0

ADJOURNMENT

A True Record.

Naomi L. Bolton

Naomi L. Bolton
Recording Secretary