

Budget Meeting

11/14/2023

Attendees:

Don Paiva Chair

Doug Benton

Fred Plats arrived at 6:05 pm

Mike Provost

Ed Skrobak

Cindy Williams Vice Chair

George Tuthill Selectmen

Jennifer Dostie

Department Heads:

Paul Sirad Department Head for Highway and Transfer station

George Clayman Fire Chief

Francine Skiffington Town Clerk/ Tax Collector

Public Members:

Larry Sharp

Nancy McComas-Sharp

Meeting called to order at 6:03pm

Motion to accept meeting minutes from 10/24/2023 was made by Doug, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mike all in favor.

Town Clerk/ Tax Collector started with their budget first. There was a question about the equipment line being lower. Fran explained that it was increased last year to replace a computer for her assistant. There were no further questions for this department.

Next up was the fire department. Mike asked about the generator for the station. Chief Clayman states all they have is a portable one that will not do the entire station. Chief Clayman states he is removing his warrant article for a generator for the building and making the request with the Association to purchase.

Chief Clayman also states the department needs a new furnace and is requesting that from the Association as well. Questions in regard to the equipment line not being spent. Chief Clayman states the money in there is for more radios and to replace bad pagers. Chief Clayman would like to add two new tablets one for each engine so that way reports can be done on scene instead of waiting plus allows access to more information that may be needed. Chief Clayman was asked about establishing more dry hydrant. Chief Clayman states it was put on hold as has other items due to the amount of money spent for the floods and unsure about reimbursement.

Next up was Forest Fires only thing noted was debt services was 40 thousand dollars.

George Clayman also presented Emergency Management. Lack of spending was noted and explained to conserve money as we were unsure of being reimbursed for the floods. Discussed the need to update our hazard mitigation plan. Next years emergency management update plan is not required but is recommended every 5 years. Discussed target hazards.

Last Department was the Health Department presented by Mike. Red Cross willing to lend town 6 cots and may not want them back. Moved away from wanting to use Conex boxes for storage and utilizing town halls storage. Questions in regards to phone line as there is no longer a phone bill that is being utilized by Mike. Mike uses his personal cell phone. Mike states there is a current issue with someone's septic failing and leaking into a water vein. Mike needs to do a test to prove there is sewage in ground water. Mike is also trying to get DES to assist.

Next meeting is on November 27<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the town hall. Motion to adjourn made by Mike, second by Cindy all in favor at 6:45pm.