

Budget Committee  
November 28th, 2023  
Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Chair Paul Regan, Vice Chair Sue Sodano, Walter Waring, Charlie Therriault, Daniel Kenney, Janet Cavanagh and Les Dion, Select Board Representative.

**Others Present:**

Christina Goodwin, Town Administrator, Joanne Bailey, Land Use and Assessing Manager, and Ingrid Heidenreich, Welfare Director.

**Call to Order:**

Mr. Regan called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

Ms. Dion led the committee in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**New Business:**

**Budget Committee Overall Goals for 2024 Budget**

There will be a continued discussion at the December 12th meeting regarding the goals for the 2024 Budget.

**Potential Items for Removal from Budget 2024 and into Warrant Articles**

Motion to move the bottom line of #4140 Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics in the recommended amount by the Select Board of \$208,599.57 by Mr. Therriault, second by Mrs. Sodano. Motion to amend line #810 New Equipment from \$6,500 to \$500 by Mr. Therriault, second by Mrs. Sodano. Mr. Therriault stated he feels that new equipment should be added as a Warrant Article and not in the budget as a line item. Discussion continued regarding motion. Motion to table discussion until Ms. Simpson can be present by Mr. Waring but was not seconded. Motion to amend line #810 failed, 3-4. Motion to close discussion on #4140 by Mr. Therriault, second by Mr. Regan. Motion passed, 7-0.

Motion to move the bottom line of #4210 Public Safety: Police in the recommended amount by the Select Board of \$1,336,091.77 by Mr. Therriault, second by Mr. Regan. Motion to amend #891 PD Grant related expenses to the amount of \$0 by Mr. Therriault. Motion passed, 6-1. Motion to close discussion on #4210 Public Safety: Police by Mr. Therriault, second by Mr. Regan. Motion passed, 7-0.

**Capital Improvements Program Committee Presentation**

Mr. Regan and Mr. Kenney are both members of the CIP Committee, however, will not be presenting tonight. The CIP presentation will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

**Review & Approve – Budget Sections:**

**#4152 Property Reappraisal**

Motion to move bottom line of #4152 Reevaluation of Property in the amount of \$155,649.16 by Mr. Therriault, second by Mr. Regan. Joanne Bailey, Land Use and Assessing Manager, introduced herself to the committee. Motion to reduce line #121 Property Administration Clerk to \$0 by Mr. Therriault, second by Mr. Regan. This line was a placeholder for the shared admin who assists Assessing, Land Use,

and Highway. There is currently a part time temporary clerk who was cross trained in the position whose wages are being paid from budget line #1220. Motion passed, 7-0. Motion to move the bottom line of #4152 in the amended amount of \$154,149.16. Motion passed, 6-0.

#### **#4191 Planning Board**

Motion to move the bottom line of #4191 Planning in the amount of \$9,300 by Mr. Therriault, second by Mr. Regan. This budget is level funded and is to continue the work of the Master Plan. Ms. Goodwin noted that \$6,000 from this current year will be encumbered and contributed towards the continued work of the Master Plan. Motion to move the bottom line of #4191 in the amount of \$9,300.00 passed, 7-0.

#### **#4192 Zoning Board**

Motion to move the bottom line of #4192 Zoning in the amount of \$2,400 by Mr. Regan, second by Mr. Therriault. Joanne Bailey noted some changes were made to fully staff the Land Use department. They have been enforcing ordinances which have resulted in an increase in cases and application fees, breaking even from a financial standpoint. Motion to move the bottom line of #4192 in the amount of \$2,400.00 passed, 6-0.

#### **#4193 Tax Map**

Motion to move the bottom line of #4193 Mapping in the amount of \$8,750 by Mr. Regan, second by Mr. Waring. This budget reflects the upgrade on the mapping portal platform. Motion to move the bottom line of #4193 in the amount of \$8,750.00 passed, 6-0.

#### **#4411 Land Use/Health**

Motion to move the bottom line of #4411 Land Use and Health: Administration in the amount of \$135,744.29 by Mr. Regan, second by Mr. Kenney. Motion to move the bottom line of #4411 in the amount of \$135,744.29 passed, 6-0.

#### **#4414 Animal Control**

Motion to move the bottom line of #4414 Animal Control in the amount of \$200 by Mr. Regan, second by Mrs. Sodano. Motion to move the bottom line of #4414 in the amount of \$200.00 passed, 6-0.

#### **#4441 Welfare Admin**

Motion to move the bottom line of #4441 Welfare: Administration in the amount of \$13,813.31 by Mr. Regan, second by Mrs. Sodano. It was noted that line #230 was corrected due to a financial error. Motion to table discussion by Mrs. Cavanagh, second by Mr. Waring. Motion failed, 2-4. Motion to move the bottom line of #4441 in the amount of \$13,813.31 passed, 5-1.

#### **#4445 Welfare – Vendor Payments**

Motion to move the bottom line of #4445 Vendor Payments in the amount of \$28,900 by Mr. Regan, second by Mrs. Sodano. This budget is level funded. Motion to move the bottom line of #4445 in the amount of \$28,900.00 passed, 6-0.

**#4520 Park and Recreation - TTCC**

Motion to move the bottom line of #4520 Parks and Recreation in the amount of \$122,115 by Mr. Regan, second by Mr. Waring. Ms. Dion noted the TTCC Summer Camp filled up completely in the first three days of open registration with the need for an additional camp for those who were on a waitlist. The TTCC received a one million dollar grant to go towards the new building for the community center. Discussion continued regarding the need and potential increase of children and staff for the summer camps and the after-school programs offered by the TTCC. Motion to move the bottom line of #4520 in the amount of \$122,115.00 passed, 5-0-1.

**#4522 Kelley Park**

Motion to move the bottom line of #4522 Kelly Park in the amount of \$39,898 by Mr. Regan, second by Mr. Waring. This budget is level funded. Motion to move the bottom line of #4522 in the amount of \$39,898.00 passed, 6-0.

**#4583 Patriotic Purposes**

Motion to move line #4583 Patriotic Purposes in the amount of \$29,600 by Mr. Regan, second by Mr. Kenney. This budget funds decorations and events such as Old Home Day, Halloween, downtown Christmas Tree Lighting, and other events. Motion to move the bottom line of #4583 in the amount of \$29,600.00 passed, 6-0.

**#4611 Conservation Commission**

Motion to move the bottom line of #4611 Conservation Commission in the amount of \$2,400 by Mr. Regan, second by Mrs. Sodano. Line #560 reflects the cost of sending a child to a conservation camp. Motion to move the bottom line of #4611 in the amount of \$2,400.00 passed, 6-0.

**#4612 Historic District Commission**

Motion to move the bottom line of #4612 Historic District Commission in the amount of \$550 by Mr. Regan, second by Ms. Dion. Motion to move the bottom line of #4612 in the amount of \$550.00 passed, 6-0.

**Review and Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve amended minutes of November 14th minutes by Mr. Regan, second by Mr. Waring, 6-0. Motion passed, 6-0.

**Correspondence:**

None

**Member/Select Board Comments**

Mr. Regan noted that he feels the line items within each budget section seem reasonable.

**Staff Comments**

None

**Next Meeting**

Tuesday, December 12, 2023, at 6pm in Town Office Meeting Room A.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn at 8:02pm by Mr. Regan, second by Mr. Waring. Motion passed, 7-0.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shannon Wharton