

Budget Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
October 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021 – 6:00 PM  
Town Hall  
1 Monument Square  
Alton, NH 03809

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1. Call to Order: 6:02 PM
2. Roll Call: R Parker – Chair, D Hershey – Vice Chair, J Bemis, L Laplante, R Johnson - School Board Representative, E Dionne - Town Administrator, L Parker - Finance Manager, B Mitchell - Selectman’s Representative (Department Heads in Attendance: J Dever - Code Official, Jessica Call - Town Planner, J Beaudoin - Fire Chief)
3. Approval of Agenda: DH moves to accept agenda, 2<sup>nd</sup> by JakeB, all were in favor.
4. New Business: Budget Presentations and Approvals
  - a. Building Department (4192) \$111,783.00: DH moves to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by JakeB, all were in favor.
    - i. DH inquires into use of overtime at the Building Department. JD advises that the overtime hours are used for occasional late hours.
    - ii. DH inquires into the printing/copying costs of the Building Department. JD advises that a plotter/oversized scanner was purchased recently, and that the ink is very expensive.
    - iii. DH inquires into the purpose of the labs line item. JD advises that the lab line item is used primarily for water testing regarding runoff and septic systems.
    - iv. DH inquires into the purpose of the boat travel line item. JD advises that the police boat is occasionally used for island property assessments. DH asks if the Building Department charges extra fees for the use of the boat regarding island property assessments. JD feels that the standard fee is sufficient to cover the costs associated with the occasional police boat usage.
  - b. Planning Board (4191) \$122,794.00: DH moves to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by BM, all were in favor.
  - c. Fire Department (4220) \$1,058,585.00: RP moves to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by DH, all were in favor.
    - i. Jim B advises that there is a 6% increase YoY in the Fire Department budget, and the majority is related to increasing staffing for emergency medical response.
    - ii. DH inquires into the types of fuel used to heat the Fire Department buildings. JimB advises that the buildings use a combination of oil and propane. DH advises that propane prices are set to spike this winter. JimB advises that propane rates are locked with fuel supplier.
  - d. Gilman Museum (4575) \$8,087.00: BM moves to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by RP, all were in favor.
    - i. DH asks if the town has plans to add surveillance to the Gilman Museum. ED advises that the town has plans to add surveillance to most town buildings, and that the Gilman Museum is part of that plan.
  - e. Budget Committee (4131) \$1,846.00: DH moves to approve, 2<sup>nd</sup> by BM, all were in favor.
    - i. RP advises that the transcriber line item will be left unchanged this year just in case the transcription software doesn’t work out.
    - ii. electric companies would help us compile a list of LED bulbs that would fit each streetlight. ED advises that they would.

5. Old Business:
  - a. RP asks Budget Committee members to email any questions they may have about the Assessing Department budget (4193) so that we can work with the department head via email due to scheduling issues.
6. Approval of Minutes: JakeB moves to approve the September 30<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. 2<sup>nd</sup> by DH, all were in favor.
7. Other Business: None.
8. Motion to Adjourn: DH motions to adjourn, 2<sup>nd</sup> by JB, all were in favor. 6:36 PM.