

Until Further Notice: To keep our members and staff safe, and to comply with RSA 91-A, the State of Emergency, and Governor's Orders, restrictions on public gatherings, The Town of Alton has moved from "in-person" meetings to "remote audio participation meetings". To remotely attend the meeting (audio only) visit our website: www.alton.nh.gov on the day of the meeting for instructions or telephone the Selectmen's Office 603-875-2113 or 603-875-0229. There continues to be no Public Input at this time.

Budget Committee
APPROVED Minutes (Approved 11/5/2020)
October 29, 2020 @ 6:00 PM
Alton Town Hall, 1 Monument Square
Alton, NH 03809

Call to order by Patrick O'Brien with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Budget Committee Present:

Patrick O'Brien, Chairman

David Hershey, Vice Chairman

Reuben Parker, Member

Reuben Wentworth, Selectmen Board Representative

ABSENT:

Beth Varney, Member

Brock Mitchell, Member

Town Employees Present:

Liz Dionne, Town Administrator

Laura Parker, Town Finance Administrator

Approval of Agenda

MOTION by R. Wentworth to accept the Agenda as presented. Second D. Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor. (4-0)

New Business

1. Budget Presentations/Approvals

a. Assessing Department (4193) Robb Jutton

Contracted Line 184 increase \$81,500. Contract for re-evaluation. One time cost. Statutory requirement. **MOTION** R. Wentworth to approve the proposed budget for the Assessing Department of \$229,167. Second by D. Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (4-0).

b. Town Clerk/Tax Collector (4132) Lisa Noyes

Budget is level funded. Contracted services \$125 folding and stuffing machine. Split with Assessing Department. Printing and signs went up due to printing the tax bill. Encumbered funds from last year. **MOTION** by R. Wentworth to approve the proposed budget for Town Clerk/Tax Collector Department of \$176,269. Second by D. Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (4-0).

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- c. Elections (4140) Lisa Noyes
Not as many elections for the coming year. **MOTION** by D. Hershey to approve the proposed budget for the Elections Department of \$14,365. Second by R. Wentworth. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (4-0).

 - d. Budget Committee (4131) Pat O'Brien
No major changes **MOTION** by D. Hershey to approve the budget for the Budget Committee of \$1,806. Second by R. Parker. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (4-0).

 - e. Police Department (4210) Chief Ryan Heath
Not a lot of changes except payroll. Line 269 investigations jumped of \$3,700. Annual fee for dumping of cell phones for investigations. Line 029 Benefit buyout is up from last year. 2020-year special request from an employee and after 10 years you can request to pull funds. This year's amount is based on a 5-year average. Line 109 Career Development. 2 employees last year and this year only one employee. **MOTION** by D. Hershey to approved the Police Department budget of \$1,277,125. Second by R. Parker. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (4-0).

 - e. Emergency Management (4290) Chief Ryan Heath)
Very busy with Emergency Management. Keeping track of Covid19 expenditures for the CARES act. Phase 3 of funding from State has now opened up to Wages. Emergency Management budget with a lot of unknowns. Worked to keeping figures from getting out of control. Preparation response line bumped up to \$10,000. Includes PPE, shields, etc. We have received a lot of donations from the State. **MOTION** by P. O'Brien to approve the budget for Emergency Management of \$11,003. Second by R. Wentworth. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (4-0).

Old Business - None.

Approval of Minutes

- October 22, 2020
MOTION by R. Wentworth to approve the Minutes of October 22, 2020 as presented. Second by D. Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes with 3 in favor. R. Parker abstained as he was not sworn I at the time/date of this meeting.

Other Business

Discussion on the list for next week.

Discussion on the list for review of smaller budget tonight.

Interest Short Term (4723) L. Dione

\$1. For catastrophic instances. **MOTION** by D. Hershey to approve the budget for Interest Short Term of \$1. Second by R. Wentworth. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (4-0).

Patriot Purposes (4583) L. Dione

Decrease in line 802 Fireworks. Sent a deposit for last year when we had to cancel and the company carried this over until next year. The other 2 lines are level funded. **MOTION** by D. Hershey to approve the budget for Patriot Purposes of \$16,743. Second by R. Parker. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (4-0).

Gilman Museum (4575) L. Dione

Line 184 contracted services. Two alarm systems (fire and security). Added annual testing and maintenance. Line 303 Electricity increase due to usage of the building. Water line 305. \$110 per quarter. Increased by \$30. Line 449 grounds. Put back in for consideration. **MOTION** by R. Wentworth to approve the budget for Gilman Museum of \$8,087. Second by D. Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (4-0).

Street Light (4316) L. Dione

R. Wentworth reported on the Street Light Project. Lights are going on and off intermittently. This project is in the works. Expect to have project complete by next year. Lights are paid on a flat rate not usage. Under budgeted. Selectmen took \$500. **MOTION** by R. Wentworth to approve the budget for Street Lights of \$33,000. Second by D. Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (4-0).

Legal (4153) L. Dione

Changes are Line 165 just a few dollars Line 166 litigation went up. Line 185 Police prosecutor went up. **MOTION** by R. Wentworth to approve the budget for Legal at \$137,576. Second by P. O'Brien. Brief discussion. Motion passes. (O'Brien, Wentworth, Parker Yes/Hershey No) (3-0).

Adjournment 7:30 **MOTION** by R. Wentworth to adjourn at 7:30 pm. Second by P. O'Brien. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (4-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Schaeffner
Recording Secretary