

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](http://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 12/3/2020)**  
**November 19, 2020 @ 6:00 PM**  
**Alton Town Hall**  
**1 Monument Square, Alton, NH 03809**

Call to order at 6:05 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

Roll Call

Patrick O'Brien, Chairman (Remote via Zoom)  
David Hershey, Vice Chairman  
Brock Mitchell, Member  
Reuben Parker, Member  
Reuben Wentworth, Board of Selectmen Representative

Others Present:

Liz Dione, Town Administrator  
Laura Park, Finance Administrator

Absent:

Beth Varney, Member  
Peter Leavitt, School Board Representative

Approval of Agenda

**MOTION** by P. O'Brien to approve the Agenda as presented. Second by R. Wentworth. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (5-0).

New Business

1. Budget Presentations/Approvals

- a. Building Department (4192) John Dever (via Zoom)  
Only changes are salary line. NO other changes.  
**MOTION** by D. Hershey to approved the presented Building Department budget of \$109,156. Second by B. Mitchell. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (5-0).
- b. Household Hazardous Waste (4326) Sarah Silk (via Zoom) (R. Wentworth will speak for S. Silk as the Selectmen have reviewed this budget along with the Town Administrator which are both present.  
R. Wentworth noted only voting of \$27,525 Alton's portion 30% (Alton attendance).  
**MOTION** by R. Wentworth to approve the presented budget for Household Hazardous Waste of \$27,525. Second by B. Mitchell. Motion passes with all in favor (5-0).
- c. Library (4550) Holly Brown, Library Director (via Zoom)  
Decrease of \$275 from last year. Changes reflected in wages. Staff changes. Other changes Line 304 decreased by \$1,000. Line 131 Supplies increased \$300 (COVID-19 supplies), Line 111 increased \$30 membership for NH Library Association.  
Question on the interest from the Trust Account and what was spent from the interest only. \$5623.54 used with \$95 pending used from the Trust Account. Town is responsible for utilities and building maintenance. The interest is used for programs, equipment and

whatever deemed necessary by Trustees. Question to H. Brown as to how much the fund generates each year. Funds can carry over into another year.

**MOTION** by D. Hershey to approve the presented Library budget of \$140,871, with the recommendation that the budget be offset by 100% of the investment income annually of the fund. Second by R. Wentworth. Discussion. Agnes Thompson fund has a board of trustees that has the responsibility of how the funds are distributed. Discussion of the Library fund and the disclosure of the funds and amounts. Call for vote. Motion fails (1-4).

**MOTION** by R. Wentworth to approve the presented Library budget of \$140,871. Second by R. Parker. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (4-1).

P. O'Brien would like to add that the transparency of the Library funds needs to be more forthcoming with information with regard to the presentation of the budget next year.

- d. School Department (Pam Stiles Superintendent, John MacArthur, Principal, Pam MacDonald, Special Education Director, Shay Cassily, Curriculum Director, Sean Asdot, Buildings and Grounds Director, Debbie Brown, Executive Assistant)  
1.18 percent higher than last year. They do not have the PMHS budget yet. In this budget increase numbers for COVID-19. \$135,000 for COVID-19. Increase requirement of NH retirement system contribution of 20.02 percent up from 17%. Health insurance \$125,000 increase. The enrollment staying at status quo. No teacher placement increase. Special education increase of \$250,000. \$200,000 used from Expendable Trust. Meeting all contractual obligations. Cost saving of \$68,000 with joint board.

Phase 1 of shared services described by P. Stiles

Question asked about busing to Kingswood for vocational services. Noted that this is a PMHS question for the PMHS superintendent.

**MOTION** by R. Wentworth to approve the presented budget for Alton Central School of \$11,046,828. Second by B. Mitchell. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (5-0).

Old Business - NONE.

Approval of Minutes

- November 12, 2020

**MOTION** by R. Wentworth to approve the Minutes of November 12, 2020 as presented. Second D. Hershey. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (5-0).

Other Business (if necessary)

JMA - Mon and Wed evenings. R. Parker and P. O'Brien. All meetings remote.

Adjournment 7:50 **MOTION** by D. Hershey to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. Second by B. Mitchell. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (5-0).

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn Schaeffner  
Recording Secretary