

**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 (January 5, 2021)**  
**December 3, 2020 @ 6:00 PM**  
**Heidke Room Town Hall, 1 Monument Square**  
**Alton, NH 03809**

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Call to order by Chairman O'Brien at 6:03 pm via Zoom.

Roll Call

Patrick O'Brien, Chairman VIA ZOOM  
David Hershey, Vice Chairman  
Reuben Parker, Member  
Brock Mitchell, Member  
Karen Kharitonov, School Board Alternate VIA ZOOM  
Reuben Wentworth, Selectmen Board Representative

Others Present:

Laura Parker, Town Financial Administrator

Absent: Beth Varney, Member

Approval of Agenda

Recording Secretary, C. Schaeffner informed Chairman the need to add two items under Other Business.

1. Meeting dates (provided by Mary Jarvis via Laura Parker) and 2. Need for an additional JMA Member.

**MOTION** by P. O'Brien to accept the Agenda as amended. Second by R. Wentworth. No discussion.

Motion passes with all in favor (6-0).

New Business

1. Budget Presentations/Approvals

a. Highway Department (4312) Ken Roberts VIA ZOOM

Noting Line 010 Payroll, adding 1-month training for new person, and 1 new truck driver, the remaining is contractual. Budget is level funded. New driver added due to lost contract driver - now plowing in house.

**MOTION** by D. Hershey to approve the budget for Highway Department as presented of \$1,358,035. Second by B. Mitchell. Discussion. Sand jumped \$5 per year (under a 3-year bid). No further discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (6-0).

b. Water Department (4331) Courtney Mitchell VIA ZOOM

Noting decrease of lines for Treatment and Electricity down by half. CIP just now in development. Past 2 years done from budget. Main project on School Street and Church Street out to bid. Dealing with aged 4 inch main. Highway and Water working together. Project includes 2500 ft. K. Kharitonov noted on Line 207 Vehicle Expenses asked if more repairs for old truck.

**MOTION** by D. Hershey to approve the budget for Water Department as presented of \$475,042. Second by R. Parker. Discussion on truck fleet and CIP plan. Getting fleet on better maintenance plan. P. O'Brien called for the question. Motion passes with 5 in favor and 1 abstention (B. Mitchell) (5-0-1).

c. Benefits (4155) Laura Parker

Noting increase on Benefits and Retirement. Rates have increases (no control over rates).

**MOTION** by B. Mitchell to approve the budget for Benefits as presented of \$1,849,454.

Second by R. Wentworth. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (6-0).

d. Administration (4130) Laura Parker

Decrease due to Selectmen not taking raises this year, and postage reduction.

**MOTION** by D. Hershey to approve the budget for Administration as presented of \$384,259.00. Second by B. Mitchell. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (6-0).

Old Business - None.

Approval of Minutes

1. November 19, 2020

**MOTION** by R. Wentworth to approve the Minutes of November 19, 2020 as presented. Second by B. Mitchell. No discussion. Motion passes with 5 in favor and 1 abstention (K. Kharitonov) (5-0-1).

Other Business

1. Discussion of future dates and deadlines. Discussion of Public Hearing dates, deadlines, and Warrant Articles.

**MOTION** by P. O'Brien to set the tentative dates for the Public Hearing for Wednesday, January 13 with a snow date of Thursday, January 14. Second by B. Mitchell. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (6-0).

2. Discussion on position needing to be filled on the JMA. P. O'Brien noted that they had a meeting and have a quorum so an additional member is not needed at this time.

Adjournment

**MOTION** by R. Wentworth to adjourn at 6:55 pm. Second by B. Mitchell. No discussion. Motion passes with all in favor (6-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Schaeffner, Recording Secretary