

SELECTBOARD BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
WEDNESDAY, Dec. 6, 2023
1:30 PM
COLLIER ROOM

CALLED MEETING TO ORDER: 1:30 pm

PRESENT: Gary Circosta, Eric Hanson, Dave Kelley, Ellen Celnik, Peter

OTHERS PRESENT: Kim Greaves, Brett Stanciu

Meeting called to order at 1:30 pm.

This was a working budget meeting and as such, a wide variety of topics were discussed, including the items below.

Peter opened with update on the Sidewalk plowing machine. Tom had found someone in Walden to repair the machine. It was evaluated and the part to fix it will be \$5,000 with at least 2 weeks down time.

Discussion on whether to rent a machine from Pete's. It was decided not to rent one.

Peter will call around to see if we could hire a contractor locally in the meantime to clear the sidewalks before the upcoming warm temperatures.

Gary offered that the repair costs could come out of the HERF account.

Reviewed notes from Brett as sent to the board.

Discussion on the Rescue Squad appropriation. Dave will email Lindsay at the Rescue Squad

Discussion on Health Officer stipend. Decided to decrease to \$500.00

Added \$500 to Selectboard chair stipend

Gary asked what the board was looking for as an overall percentage increase max, it was determined to try to stay below 6 -6 ½% increase, if possible

Eric suggested 2 line items that could help with the %: HERF cutting \$30,000 and Sidewalks cutting \$18,000 would work.

Christine Armstrong offered that she was concerned about the wastewater system for the Grange. The permit required to monitor water going into the Grange and wastewater going out, but it had not ever been done. She felt the Board should budget in for installing 2 wastewater tanks. This could be between \$10,000 and \$20,000 plus the cost of pumping them once a year. Discussion around the Rural Edge project for the Town Hall and Grange may impact this. Decided to wait for now. Peter will look into the plumbing at the Grange.

Next meeting was set for December 13, 2023 at 1:30.

Motion by Peter to adjourn, Gary seconded

Adjourned at 3:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Kim Greaves

Town Clerk

Amended 12/13/23 J.K.