

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
JANUARY 19, 2021
MINUTES

PRESENT: David Lage Chairman; John Veeseer & Shawn Talbot; Town Administrator Scott Butcher

The meeting opened at 6:00. Meeting was held at the school to allow for maximum attendance while maintaining social distancing. It was also viewable by Zoom.

BUDGET:

Selectman Lage summarized the changes in the budget for the audience.

Chairman Lage proposed we add the health insurance of the DPW, for an employee who will come on board in March, in an additional \$20,799 and \$1,332 for dental and those are both for a period of 9 months, Selectman Veeseer seconded the proposal.

Selectman Veeseer also noted that the town is required to pick up more of the retirement cost as the state is reducing their contribution.

Audience was asked if there were any questions on the budget:

Question on the change in salaries. It was reiterated that the pension change was a big driver of the increased costs. Also noted that other towns wait for our police recruits to get the training then they hire them on because the penalty is less than the training costs. So we are hoping to pay better to keep the officers after training.

WARRANTS:

Article 01: Selectman Lage reminded the audience that there are elected positions coming up. If interested in running for one of these positions the opening to sign up runs from Jan 20th until the 29th of January. Sign up with the Tax Clerk at the Town Office.

Board of Selectmen	(1) 3 year term
Board of Assessors	(1) 3 year term
Cemetery Trustees	(1) 3 year term
Planning Board	(2) 3 year term
Treasurer	(1) 1 year term
Trustees of the Trust Funds	(1) 3 year term
Trustees of the Trust Funds	(1) 1 year term
Town Clerk / Tax Collector	(1) 3 year term

Article 02: Budget, which was discussed at the meeting opening
Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor
Finance Advisory Committee voted 3-0 in favor

Article 03: Road Projects Block Grant, to raise \$150K to be offset by the NH Dept of Transportation Block Grant (no amount to be raised through taxation.
Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor
Finance Advisory Committee voted 3-0 in favor

Article 04: Roads (Paving and reconstruction) to raise \$350K
Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor
Finance Advisory Committee voted 3-0 in favor

Article 05: Roads (Reconstruction and Paving) to raise \$250K
Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor
Finance Advisory Committee voted 3-0 in favor

Article 06: Fund Capital Reserves and Expendable Trusts

Highway Dept Expendable Cap Reserve	\$75K
Fire Dept Capital Reserve Fund	\$50K
Pool Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund	\$6K
Parks & Recreation Capital Reserve	\$2.5K
Police Dept. Expendable Capital Reserve	\$40K
Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund	\$30K
Building Maintenance Expendable Trust	\$35K
Fire Protection Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	\$20K

Some discussion to clarify that the Fire Dept Equipment fund is for the equipment, such as tanks that need to be replaced or maintained, and not for vehicles.

Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor
Finance Advisory Committee voted 3-0 in favor

Article 07: Library to raise \$40K dollars for the library
Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor
Finance Advisory Committee voted 2-1 in favor

Article 08: Ambulance Service, to raise \$98,066 for contracted licensed ambulance service, emergency services and support.
Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor
Finance Advisory Committee voted 3-0 in favor

Article 09: Regional Health Services. To raise \$9,550 for the regional health services that service New Ipswich.

Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor

Finance Advisory Committee voted 3-0 in favor

Article 10: Property Revaluation. To raise \$20,440 for funding year 2 of the 5 year cyclical revaluation and authorize a withdrawal of \$20,440 from the Revaluation Fund created for that purpose.

Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor

Finance Advisory Committee voted 3-0 in favor

Article 11: Household Hazardous Waste. To participate in the Keene program to allow New Ipswich residents to drop off hazardous waste on a schedule to be determined for the spring, summer and fall.

Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor

Finance Advisory Committee voted 2-1 in favor

Article 12: Sale of the old Highway Garage. Old garage is located at 497 Turnpike road. Salt shed will be built at the Highway building behind town offices.

Audience question regarding environmental testing of the old highway garage property considering the prior NI electric light company and highway salt use. No testing has been done. At one point in time barrels were removed.

Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor

Finance Advisory Committee voted 3-0 in favor

Article 13: Valley Road Acceptance. To see if the Town accepts Valley Road as a public highway.

Board of Selectmen voted 0-3 NOT in favor

Article 14: Tax Maps Update. To see if the Town will vote to appropriate sum of \$148,500 for recompiling and updating the tax maps for the town.

Board of Selectmen voted 1-2 NOT in favor

Finance Advisory Committee voted 3-0 in favor

Article 15: Discontinuation of Property. To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Selectmen to discontinue 0.29 acres (part of old right of way) adjacent to NH Route 124

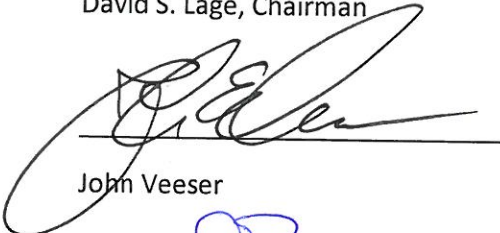
Board of Selectmen voted 3-0 in favor

Chairman Lage MOTIONED to adjourn, Selectman Talbot SECONDED the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Mallett, Land Admin

Minutes approved by:
BOARD OF SELECTMEN

David S. Lage, Chairman



John Veese



Shawn Talbot