**Board of Selectmen Meeting**

**January 26, 2021**

**Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Chairman Edwards at 6:00 PM

**ROLL CALL**

Chairman: Russell Edwards – Present

Selectman: Joe Marko – Present

Selectman: Ian Underwood – Present

Staff in attendance: Brianna Aubertin

**REVIEW OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Review of minutes from 1/12/2021 meeting. Accepted with minor changes due to typographical errors, no change to content.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

Vouchers and other standard business that comes before the Board for signature and correspondence from various agencies.

**REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN**

I have been busy with finishing up the budget for 2021.

**APPOINTMENTS**

Budget Items: Chairman Edwards read through MS-636 with itemized budget items, and he specifically focused on items that are either increasing/decreasing in this years budget. Some of these items include:

-Election, Registration, and Vital Statistics (Decrease)

-Financial Administration (Increase)

-Revaluation of Property (Decrease)

-Legal Expense (Decrease)

-Cemeteries (Chairman Edwards is going to confirm that this item will stay the same as last year $12,800).

-Police (Decreased)

-Highway and streets (Chairman Edwards is going to confirm this will stay the same as last year $215,258).

-Water Conservation and Other (Increase; Edwards checking to make sure this item will be the same as last year, $7,350, as well as confirm if there will be any PFOA testing in wells at the transfer station).

-Vendor Payments and Other (Increase)

Selectman Ian Underwood is going to set up online donation for charities including: Meals on Wheels, Behavioral Health, Visiting Nurse Association. He feels it’s more beneficial for both taxpayers and charitable services if town members can donate to these specific charities rather than having tax dollars spent to these charities. Selectman Underwood is going to look into adding a donation link on town website as well so it’s easily accessible. The public suggests not to only have an online donation link, but rather have a “collection box” at town hall as well as town meeting. The money that is collected will be split among all charities unless specified in donation.

-Culture and Recreation (Increase) Selectman Joe Marko is going to check to see if the bi-annual Camp Coniston will happen this year due to COVID-19. It is suggested that town budgets for it anyways).

-Other Debt Services: Chairman Edwards will confirm with the Town Clerk and New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration whether or not the correct amount should be $0 for 2021.

-Buildings (Decreased, we had money left over from last year 2020).

Chairman Edwards will check with the individual who helped type up the DRAFT budgeted items to see why specific amounts aren’t listed under Operating Transfers Out, as well as some items listed above.

Warrant Articles: Chairman Edwards read through each warrant article.

1. Town must vote on new officers and agents that are up for re-election this year.
2. Repaving of Loverin Hill ($325,000). Chairman Edwards got a quote from Sugar River which offered the best fixed rate, 2.875% for a 10 year term. Having a 10 year term will help to even out the payments over the next 10 years. The first years payment would be $15,597, the following payments would be about $37,000, and the last years payment will be about $22,000. This payment plan would have the least impact on taxes. This job would be completed in one year because it is cheaper for the loan cost as well as cost of material. Having the job completed in one year would be about $7,000 less than spreading the job out over 3 years. The paving quote was $315,000, interest will cost a total of $49,000 which breaks down to about $5,000 a year which will leave no spike in the budget. It was recommended by town highway department in order to maintain this projects lifespan, 5 years after job is completed the town will want to sand and seal to help maintain road paving. Money from the highway block grant can also be used to pay on this loan.
3. General Municipal Operations: Chariman Edwards will clarify why cemetery is only $300. Total **$474,159**
4. Payment for Samuel Morse property Total **$22,700**
5. Cemetery maintenance and repairs Total **$12,500**
6. Bridges Capital Reserve Fund: Total **$25,000.** This was established in 2017 and has about $118,500, towns goal is to get it to $200,000 which would cover the cost of a bridge. Breton Road bridge has been red listed by the state of NH, so town is preparing for future repair.
7. Town Revaluation Capital Reserve fund: There is about $18,500 in this fund right now, and this needs to be about $27,000 by 2025. Total **$5,000**
8. Yearly payment on 2018 Western Star Dump Truck. Total **$42,250**
9. Testing and monitoring wells and transfer station. Total **$7,350**
10. Pine Hill Road Repairs. Total **$63,600** Anticipated $35,000 come from Highway Block Grant, remaining to come from taxation.
11. Purchase a new 2021 Western Star Truck. There is money left over from Loverin Hill project and only having one highway department worker for a few months which was added to the unused fund balance. No new tax money is being raised for this purchase.
12. Purchase of used fork and broom attachment for the backhoe. The forks are used at transfer station to move oil, the broom is used to prepare sections for paving and clean debris after storms.
13. Town Vehicles and Equipment Capital Reserves Fund, Total **$20,000.** There is $53,500 currently in fund, and want it close to $150,000 for new town vehicle purchase in about 5 years.
14. Solar Panel Tax Exemption

**OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**OTHER**

**PUBLIC FORUM**

The Chairman confirmed the next selectboard meeting will be a workshop meeting focusing on warrant articles will be held on 2/2/21 at 6PM. He then called the meeting adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Brianna Aubertin**