

TOWN OF JAFFREY
Budget Committee
October 6, 2022

Members Present: Norman Langevin, Peter Maki, Kathy Batchelder, Charlie Turcotte, Patty Farmer

Excused: Frank Sterling, Bob Schaumann

Staff: Town Manager Frederick, Finance Director FitzGerald, Administrative Assistant Zola

Meeting opened: 6:02 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL

On a motion by Batchelder, seconded by Maki, the May 5, 2022 minutes were approved (3-0).

On a motion by Batchelder, seconded by Turcotte, the September 1, 2022 minutes were approved (5-0).

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

We are 3/4 through our fiscal year, with 25% being the "Percent Left" as reported in the financial reports.

The total budgeted General Fund expenditures are \$6,867,391, with \$4,755,036 expended to date and 30.76% remaining (percent left).

The following expenditure items are noted for explanation:

- *Electricity* – Our supply rate is currently \$.1645 per kWh through our power consortium with Standard Power. Eversource is \$.22566 per kWh.
- *Gas and Oil* – Watching.
- *Overtime* – Over benchmarks with Police and Highway. Keeping other account lines untouched to preserve the bottom line in these departments.

These are the areas of concern right now, which are the same as the previous report.
All other accounts are on target.

Total General Fund revenues are \$2,121,431 and we are currently at 34.5% remaining to collect.

The following revenue line items are noted for explanation:

- *Other Taxes and Meals & Room Tax* – Disbursed at the end of the year.

Water revenue is \$1,217,346 and expenditures are \$728,442.

Sewer revenue is \$1,786,125 and expenditures are \$1,405,743.

The budget process is under way and the calendar was distributed.

DISCUSSION

Turcotte asked about DPW overtime. TM Frederick stated that it was due to last winter after January, when the new budget started.

Maki asked about the Fire Department. TM Frederic noted that they now have 4 per diem fire fighters and are doing well.

Farmer wanted to give kudos to the Library for getting so much funding through grants. Millipore is a big contributor and the Library Staff has a lot of ambition to go after these grants. TM Frederick noted that Superintendent of Utilities Cavaliere does a great deal of grant applications for the water/sewer department, but those grants are more difficult to receive.

Chairman Langevin wanted to clarify that the Social Services requests will go to the Social Services Committee first for application and financials review, they will then make a recommendation to the Budget Committee. The process for receiving funds will be the same after town meeting approval with the funds being considered “restricted” funds, not to be spent elsewhere.

The Select Board will be deciding on their budget guidance at their October 24th meeting. TM Frederick did mention that for Social Services requests there is inflation for both sides. CPI is 10%, but employees may only see 2% pay increases. Material prices are increasing, causing the sweeper purchase to be postponed.

Farmer asked if new home sales would add to the town’s income, but only about 1% was added.

There is State aid for electric/fuel assistance, but there is a formula to qualify through the State directly.

NEW BUSINESS

There is no news on any potential sale of St. Patrick’s School.

The WW Cross assessment is ongoing.

2023 is slated for the Cold Stones Springs Project.

2024 is slated for the ground breaking on the Route 202 roundabout project.

Both Batchelder and Farmer will need to Zoom in for the November meeting.

MEETING ADJOURNED: On a motion from Batchelder, seconded by Turcotte, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25pm.

NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 3, 2022

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