

TOWN OF JAFFREY
Jaffrey, New Hampshire
Select Board Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2023

Chairman: Franklin W. Sterling, Jr.
Selectmen: Kevin Chamberlain, Charles Turcotte
Town Manager: Jon Frederick
Staff: Administrative Assistant Zola
Others: Ashley Saari, Monadnock Ledger

A. Call to Order – 10:00am

B. Consent Agenda

1. Abatements
 - a) #2023-30 – State of New Hampshire – Blake Street - \$18.00 – Taxes
2. Tax Collectors 12th Cycle 2023 Septic Haulers Commitment Warrant
 - a) \$10,032.16

On a motion by Chamberlain, seconded by Turcotte, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented (3-0).

C. New Business

2024 Budget Presentation

Executive- Increased 1.7% due to leases/rentals of copiers, storage facility, salaries and retirement.

Elections – Increased 17% due to 4 elections this year. Ballots and notices are an added cost.

Financial Administration- Increased 2.2%. IT line was down due to all equipment replacement being completed. This year is only firewall purchases. Computers are on a 3-5 replacement cycle.

Property Records- Increased 5.5% due to MRI/Software and online services.

Legal – Increased by 25% due to 3 cases, 2 of which are now closed. We will receive 50% back from the solar project expenses.

Personnel Administration – Increased 7% due to the increase of family plans chosen when single plans had been budgeted in the past.

Planning & Zoning- Increased 3% due to salaries.

General Government Buildings – Decreased by \$2,800 due to electric rates.

Cemeteries- Increased 4.4% due to contracted services.

Insurance – Increased by 9%. This covers our Property and Liability insurance.

Police – Decreased \$8,444 due to CBA salaries moved to a warrant article. They are fully staffed as of February 2024.

Ambulance - Increased \$1,500 due to capital costs. They ask the same amount of Rindge.

Fire Department – Increased 7.2% due to salaries and vehicle maintenance. K. Chamberlain suggested using last year’s adopted numbers bringing Per Diem to \$120,000 and On Call to \$95,000.

Building Inspection – Increased \$2,346 due to salaries.

Emergency Management – Mutual aid dispatch contract increased 3.5%.

Prosecution – Increased due to salaries, retirement and office rent.

Highway Administration – Decreased due to salaries being moved to a warrant article.

Highway Operations – Decreased due to taking the sidewalk repairs out making them a warrant article.

Bridges – Level funded.

Street Lighting – Decreased with the LED light changeout.

Health – Level funded.

Animal Control – Level funded.

Social Services – Decreased \$34. Hundred Nights and CVTC requests were decreased to reflect actual services provided.

Welfare – Increased \$1,804 for salaries. Cell phone line item was added. General Assistance was decreased due to last year’s low fuel assistance requests.

Recreation- Lifeguard line was eliminated due to not staffing beaches outside of camp hours.

Library- Increased \$13,644 for salaries. They have added full-time staff. Maintenance/Repairs line is up \$1,800 due to the aging building. Lawn care will be done by the Town.

Patriotic Purposes – Level funded

Conservation – Budget was spent early in the year. Chamberlain suggested increasing to \$750 to cover additional expenses.

Economic Development – Increased \$882 due to salaries.

Debt Services – Broadband Bond is paid by users. Road Loan is on track and level. Fire truck lease line was added, it’s a 9-year loan.

Water- Increased \$39,965 due to continuing lab testing for PFAS, CSS development, vertical and horizontal asset study recommendations;

Sewer – Increased \$91,051 to capital repairs and contract costs.

Downtown TIFD- TEAM Jaffrey was decreased \$10,000 due to non-justification of their request. Elite Laundry is now being tested for PFAS.

Stone Bridge TIFD – Decreased \$1,474 due to debt paydown.

Warrant Articles:

- Police & DPW CBA to be determined
- Letourneau Drive bridge amount has changed due to funding.
- Heath Road bridge is completed.
- Nutting has State money coming.
- CRF's are level funded with \$10,000 reduction in Recreation for new bus coming in the spring.
- Sidewalks request is \$100,000 due to a Block grant of \$182,000 to get the project started. Total needed is \$1.5 million with \$150,000 asked for yearly for 10 years.
- Road Paving - \$614,301 to be expended this year. There is a plan to go back and review roads for rehab and reassessment in 2029.
- DPW – Pickup #1 needs replacement. A mower will be purchased for the loader, which is a shared piece of equipment with Marlborough.
- Downtown TIFD - \$150,000 asked for Rte. 202 improvements, which is up from \$60,000.
- Stone Bridge - \$60,000 asked for improvements to the district, which is up from \$40,000.
- Requests for Gravestones, Cemetery Trees, Meetinghouse and Retirement Buyouts are level funded.

Revenues:

- License fees are coming down.
- Meals and Rooms taxes are slightly up but a level number is kept for budgeting purposes.
- Interest on investments is down due to debt being paid off.

Operating budget has a 2% increase from last year.

The BOS accepted the budget presented with the changes noted.

D. Adjournment

On a motion by Chamberlain, seconded by Turcotte to adjourn at 11:50pm (3-0).

Submitted:

Attest:

Judith A. Zola
Administrative Assistant

Franklin W. Sterling, Jr.
Chairman

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