

**TOWN OF TUFTONBORO**

**BUDGET COMMITTEE**

P.O. Box 98; 240 Middle Road

Center Tuftonboro, NH 03816

Telephone: (603) 569-4539; Fax: (603) 569-4328

**BUDGET COMMITTEE MINUTES**

**Tuesday, November 15, 2022**

**Present:** Chairman Gordon Hunt, Vice Chairman Gary Chehames. *Members:* Selectmen's Representative Chip Albee, Rob Roriston, Chris Sawyer. *Staff:* Jane Lemire. Selectman Guy Pike, Selectman Bob Murray.

**Absent:** Member: Jeff Reisner

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Hunt called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**II. Quorum** declared followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

**III. Public Input** – None.

**IV. Review/Approval of October 25, 2022 Minutes**

A motion to accept the Minutes of October 25, 2022 with one correction to Page 3 was made by Selectman Albee and seconded by Vice Chairman Chehames. All in favor; motion passed unanimous.

**V. Chairman's Comments**

Chairman Hunt reported that committee member Ms. Penny Hug has resigned from her position on the budget committee due to a family matter. Chairman Hunt stated that he reached out to Mr. David Dauphinais, owner of the Tuftonboro General Store, who was a past write-in candidate to serve on the committee. Mr. Dauphinais responded that he would be pleased to serve. The BOS need to approve this and will discuss at their next meeting.

**VI. Budget Reviews**

**A. 4550 – Library**

Chairman Hunt stated Mr. Dennis Guilmette was unable to attend the meeting due to a family matter, and that as Trustee he will answer any questions the group may have. Chairman Hunt reviewed the budget and answered questions. The rise in electricity cost was discussed. Chairman Hunt also reminded the group that by NH State statute, some budget income has to be achieved through private donations.

***A motion was made by Vice Chairman Chehames to accept the 2023 Budget for account 4550 Library as suggested by the BOS in the amount of \$243,084.00; seconded by Ms. Sawyer. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.***

B. 4220 – Fire

Chief Adam Thompson attended to review the budget and answer questions from the group. In addition to the budget, he distributed a memo stating why the department is requesting to add a full-time Captain position. Chief Thompson discussed the need for this position with the group and answered questions. Mr. Roriston made note that the rate of growth in budget was up 50% over the past three years. He stated it would be helpful to see a breakdown of personnel hours. Chief Thompson will provide this information. For this reason, the group decided to table this review.

***A motion was made by Mr. Roriston to Table the consideration of the 2023 Budget for account 4220 Fire until the December 13, 2022 meeting; seconded by Ms. Sawyer. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.***

C. 4290 – Emergency Management

Chief Adam Thompson reviewed the budget by line item with the group. He stated the department would like to purchase a generator for the Melvin Station and discussed this with the group. The generator purchase will be a warrant article. Chief Thompson also stated that the department received a \$31,000.00 grant named the 90/10 grant whereby the department pays 10% and the grant pays 90%. This grant is for trailers which are used at picnics, for flu shots, etc. Chairman Hunt asked if the department is still purchasing COVID supplies. Chief Thompson stated they are required to wear masks and safety glasses on medical calls so those items are still needed.

***A motion was made by Selectman Albee to accept the 2023 Budget for account 4290 Emergency Management as suggested by the BOS in the amount of \$19,710.00; seconded by Vice Chairman Chehames. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.***

D. 4196 – Insurance

Selectman Albee reviewed this budget by line item with the group. Chairman Hunt asked if the carrier remains Primex. Selectman Albee stated yes but explained that the BOS do get other quotes and review those. He explained that Primex specializes in municipalities and government and the town receives a year end rebate. Mr. Roriston asked and Selectman Albee confirmed that the deductible is \$1,000.00.

***A motion was made by Ms. Sawyer to accept the 2023 Budget for account 4196 Insurance as suggested by the BOS in the amount of \$80,103.00; seconded by Mr. Roriston. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.***

E. 4414 – Animal Control

Selectman Albee reviewed the budget with the group. He confirmed that the annual dues is to the Lakes Region Humane Society.

***A motion was made by Ms. Sawyer to accept the 2023 Budget for account 4414 Animal Control as suggested by the BOS in the amount of \$1,750.00; seconded by Vice Chairman Chehames. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.***

F. 4711 – Bonds & Notes

Chairman Hunt presented the budget to the committee.

***A motion was made by Vice Chairman Chehames to accept the 2023 Budget for account 4711 Bonds & Notes as suggested by the BOS in the amount of \$153,711.00; seconded by Ms. Sawyer. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.***

G. 4721 – Interest on Bonds & Notes

Chairman Hunt presented the budget to the committee.

***A motion was made by Vice Chairman Chehames to accept the 2023 Budget for account 4721 Interest on Bonds & Notes as suggested by the BOS in the amount of \$19,137.00; seconded by Ms. Sawyer. All in favor, motion passed unanimously.***

VII. **Correspondence – None.**

VIII. **New Business**

A. BOS Update

Selectman Albee stated all budgets are completed. He stated 4155 Personnel will show an increase of \$90,000.00 in large part due to the new fire captain position in the fire department's budget. Selectman Albee also stated to the group that the BOS have started the process of reviewing the town policy for employee health coverage and employee monetary participation. Any changes to the present policy would not go into effect until 2024. Selectman Albee stated that Wolfeboro / Friends of Pop Whalen are asking the town for a \$250,000.00 donation to rehabilitate the building. This donation would not reduce the \$16,000.00 that now goes to Wolfeboro. The BOS are still reviewing and discussing this donation request.

IX. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Sawyer and seconded by Selectman Albee to adjourn the November 15, 2022 meeting. Motion passed unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Jane Lemire, Administrative Secretary  
November 17, 2022*