

**TOWN OF WOLFEBORO
BUDGET COMMITTEE
DRAFT MINUTES
November 8, 2023**

I. Call To Order

Chairman MacDonald opened the meeting at 6:02 pm at the Wolfeboro Public Library.

Members Present: John MacDonald, Chairman, Bob Tougher, Vice-Chairman, Bob Loughman, Brian Black, Bob Moholland, Bobbi Boudman, Tom Bell, Members, Brian Deshaies, BOS Representative, Linda Murray, BOS Alternate Representative.

Members Absent: Paul O'Brien, Brian Black, Matt Plache, Members (all excused).

Staff Present: Kathy Carpentier, Finance Director, Lee Ann Hendrickson, Administrative Assistant.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Committee participated in the pledge of allegiance.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. 2024 Budget Presentations

General Government

Welfare

Amy Muccio stated she has been receiving applications for rent assistance.

John MacDonald asked if the Town provides mortgage assistance.

Amy Muccio replied yes.

Bobbi Boudman questioned the increase in office supplies.

Amy Muccio stated such is currently over expended; noting the increase is based on current expenditures.

Bob Tougher questioned whether Direct Assist Rent should be increased.

Amy Muccio stated the line is currently over expended in excess of \$8,000; noting subsidies implemented following COVID are no longer available.

Bob Tougher made a motion to increase 01-44410-845 Direct Assist - Rent from \$62,000 to 75,000. Tom Bell seconded the motion.

Discussion of the motion:

John MacDonald questioned circumstances that could impact the budget line.

Amy Muccio reviewed such.

Bob Loughman stated he would prefer to increase the line to \$70,000.

Bob Tougher withdrew his motion.
Tom Bell withdrew his second.

Bob Tougher made a motion to increase 01-44410-845 Direct Assist - Rent from \$62,000 to 70,000. Tom Bell seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion passed. (7-0-0)

Kathy Carpentier stated the increase for the Welfare budget is 17.7% based on the Board's vote.

John MacDonald asked if the Senior Center and Meals is being discontinued.

Amy Muccio stated the balance of the funds were donated to Parks and Recreation; noting the Wolfeboro Senior Citizens Club and the Senior Center and Meals programs are being combined.

John MacDonald asked if the \$25,000 would be transferred to the Parks and Recreation budget.

Kathy Carpentier replied no however, there will be lines that are supplemented.

Municipal Electric Department

Barry Muccio stated the Department has two apprentices employed and is continuing work on the conversion project. He stated he has not submitted capital outlay requests however, one warrant article is proposed (vehicle replacement).

Personnel Administration

Bobbi Boudman questioned the increase in health insurance.

Kathy Carpentier stated a 10% placeholder was put in the budget; noting the Town is waiting for the rate to be set.

The Committee discussed future employment changes within the department, training related to such, and potential funding for such. The Committee also discussed the current purchase power contract.

Technology Services

It was moved by Bobbi Boudman to decrease the bottom line of the Technology Services budget by \$400.

Kathy Carpentier stated there is a technology replacement program that is currently behind schedule for the development and stated there is a need for such.

Bobbi Boudman withdrew her motion.

Electric Administration

Bobbi Boudman questioned outstanding costs associated with 03-43410-320 Legal.

Barry Muccio stated the request is an estimate; noting there is nothing pending/anticipated expenditures at the moment.

Electric Distribution

No changes.

Electric Generation

No changes.

Kathy Carpentier noted the Electric Department budget is up 1.2%

V. **Other Business**

None.

VI. **Public Comment**

None.

VII. **Adjournment**

It was moved by Bob Moholland to adjourn the November 8, 2023 Budget Committee meeting. Bob Tougher seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. The motion passed.

Next Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for November 14, 2023 at 6:00 PM at the Wolfeboro Public Library.

There being no further business before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 7:12 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee Ann Hendrickson

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