

**Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen
Public Meeting Minutes
Budget Meeting
October 25, 2021**

Members present: Vice Chairman Dave Senecal, Brad Harriman, Luke Freudenberg and Brian Deshaies.

Members excused: Chairman Linda Murray

Staff present: Town Manager James Pineo, Finance Director Kathryn Carpentier, Public Works Director Dave Ford and Recording Secretary Amy Capone Muccio.

Vice Chairman Senecal opened the meeting at 6:00 PM.

Non-Public Session RSA 91-A: 3

Chairman Senecal stated that there is not a need for non-public session.

Consideration of Minutes

N/A

Public Hearing(s)

N/A

Public Comment (limited to 3 minutes per person not to exceed 15 minutes)

None

Bulk Vote

N/A

Board/Committee Appointments

N/A

New Business

A Discussion: Budget Hearing 2022

1. Conservation Commission

Mr. Pineo introduced this budget and noted a 4.6% decrease.

No other questions.

2. Public Works

Administration

Mr. Deshaies questioned line 1-43100-562, advertising and what that is used for.

Mr. Ford replied for postings of jobs, road notices, public meetings, bid notices, etc.

Highway & Streets

Mr. Pineo summarized the increase in this is budget of 3.3%.

Mr. Harriman questioned if road striping is based on last year's prices.

Mr. Ford replied it is, those will go out to bid and the end of the year.

Mr. Deshaies questioned line 1-43191-440 rentals and leases and what do they rent or lease.

Mr. Ford replied they rent equipment that they don't use often, it is cheaper than purchasing it especially for an annual use. There is a lot of equipment they would love to have, but it's not economical to own every piece of equipment.

Public Works Garage

Mr. Pineo summarized the decrease in this budget of 30.8% and noted a change in the way gasoline and oil are booked within this budget, by charging departments and allocating revenue.

Mr. Ford noted that overtime is up in this budget due to COVID and time off for such.

Buildings & Grounds

Mr. Pineo introduced this budget and noted the 4.2% increase.

Mr. Deshaies questioned if they plan to use more consultants going forward.

Mr. Ford replied yes, specifically to the asset management plan. The plan is to not grow staff, but grow the consultants.

Solid Waste Disposal

Mr. Pineo introduced the budget and noted a 9.9% increase and this is due to the increase in tipping fees.

Mr. Deshaies clarified that is outlined in line 1-43240-380 outside services.

Mr. Ford replied yes, this is a five year bid and they have experienced an increase in quantities coming in this as well as an increase in the hauling cost increasing.

Mr. Harriman stated an increase in new residents results in an increase in trash.

Mr. Senecal agreed, on the weekends you wait in line.

Mr. Harriman questioned we do buy our own containers correct.

Mr. Ford replied they do and try to replace one per year.

3. Water Fund

Personal Administration

Mr. Pineo stated that this line includes an insurance increase place holder of 10% until the rate in received.

Technology Services

No comments.

Water Distribution

Mr. Pineo introduced this budget and noted a 3.4% increase.

Mr. Ford stated that debt service drops off, but at some point there should be some discussion with the Board on the Capital Reserve.

Mr. Pineo suggested discussing that at the next rate analysis review.

Water Treatment Plant

Mr. Pineo introduced this budget with a 13.7% decrease.

Mr. Deshaies questioned the part time wage line.

Mr. Ford replied the Superintendent passed away last year, that position has been abandoned and a lower position and part time position was created to fill that void. This is intended to create a feeder position for the future.

4. Sewer Fund

Personal Administration

Mr. Pineo introduced the budget with a 10.4% increase also noting a place holder for insurance increase.

Mr. Ford noted that this is also a place where the increase of people moving here and/or staying home due to COVID. They have done a lot more pumping of the stations.

Technology Services

No comments.

Sewage Collection

Mr. Pineo introduced this budget with a 4.9% increase.

Waste Water Treatment Plant

Mr. Pineo introduced this budget with a 5.8 % increase in contracted services.

Mr. Ford stated that a five year contract was just renewed with Woodard & Curran noting the increase is primarily due to retirements of long time staff and seeking qualified personnel.

5. Capital Outlay

Upgrades at Solid Waste

Mr. Ford stated this is the busiest facility that is starting to show its age and is need of some critical upgrades.

Mr. Pineo noted there is some work being addressed now, this is in addition to it.

Sidewalk Repair Overlay & Patching North & South Main Street

Mr. Ford summarized this request is to make some repairs to the sidewalks along North and South Main Street.

Residential Water Meter Replacement Program

Mr. Ford stated this is an ongoing process for upgrades to the meters.

Middleton Road Water Booster Station upgrades

Mr. Ford explained this is a two year project and big upgrade to the system in that neighborhood. It will both boost the domestic water flow and fire flow.

Seasonal Water Lines upgrades

Mr. Ford stated they have applied for an SRF loan for this project and this project entails upgrading 200 seasonal water lines to a frost protected line. Currently the lines are put out each season which includes disinfecting them at the end of every season.

Mr. Pineo added this is a long standing problem and important project for water safety reasons to do away with.

WTP Alum Sludge Disposal

Mr. Ford stated this is the Water Treatment plant's backwash filter that is on a five year rotation replacement process, the last time it was done was in 2010.

Mowing Equipment for RIB and X-country Utility Lines

Mr. Ford stated the purpose of this is to care for the cross county areas, especially as the RIB upgrades are substantially complete to keep grass and trees from growing in these areas.

Mr. Pineo stated they do hope to use some left over savings from the RIB project as they are looking at that project coming in under budget by \$1 million dollars.

Sewer Pump Station upgrades

Mr. Ford stated two major stations, Mill Street and Lehner Street are in need of some upgrades. They also have seven smaller stations.

Site Work Upgrades/Haul Road

Mr. Ford stated that Filter Bed Road has increased usage and is a busier road. The tanker truck has no place to turn around and it hasn't been an issue with the truck backing down the road, but now there is some new business use on that road and this is not feasible.

The Board thanked him for his presentation.

6. Libby Museum Trustees Meeting

Mr. Harriman updated the Board that he tried to call a meeting with the Friends of the Libby Museum, but they suggested the Board review the document and propose it back to the Friends for approval.

The Board decided to table the discussion to Thursday in order to have a full board present to discuss.

7. Non Union Wage increase

Mr. Pineo stated that last week he provided his recommendation for the non-union employees wage increase with four options. He'd like have a decision from the Board on Wednesday.

The Board agreed to discuss it at their meeting on Wednesday.

Other Business

None

Committee Reports

None

Town Manager's Report

None

Questions from the Press

None

Public Input
(Limited to 3 minutes per resident and not to exceed 15 minutes in total)

Suzanne Ryan stated she visited Town Hall today as she is trying to find out if the Betty Jane Schroth Trust Fund is an actually trust or an endowment. She also questioned if the Trustees of the Libby Museum have by laws. She also provided some financial information on the Friends of the Libby Museum to.

Mr. Deshaies suggested they hold a work session Thursday night to get the MOU done.

The Board agreed.

None

Being no other business before the Board, Vice Chairman Senecal entertained a motion to adjourn.

It was moved by Luke Freudenberg and seconded by Brian Deshaies to adjourn at 6:59 PM. Roll call vote; Brian Deshaies-yes, Brad Harriman-yes, Dave Senecal-yes, and Luke Freudenberg-yes. Being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Capone Muccio