

**Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting Minutes
December 29, 2022**

Members present: Chairman Dave Senecal, Vice Chair Brad Harriman, Luke Freudenberg, Linda Murray, and Brian Deshaies (via phone).

Staff present: James S. Pineo, Town Manager, Kathryn Carpentier, Finance Director, Tom Zotti, Fire Chief, and Dean Rondeau, Police Chief.

Chairman Senecal opened the meeting at 5:00 PM.

1. Consideration of Minutes

None

2. Public Hearings

None

3. Bulk Vote

None

4. Board/Committee Appointments:

None

5. New Business

A. Approval: Investment Policy

Kathryn Carpentier addressed the Board to discuss annual investment policy and to get the Board's approve of that policy.

It was moved by Luke Freudenberg and seconded by Linda Murray to approve the annual Town Investment Police as recommended by the Finance Director. Members voted and being all in favor, the motion passed.

B. Discussion: Encumbrances for 2022

Kathryn Carpentier addressed the Board to review the encumbrances for 2022 submitted to the Board. She stated that the Board votes on these annually. Over the next few weeks, the town will still be paying and the number will adjust list based on that.

Mrs. Murray questioned if they would get updated lists as it changes.

Ms. Carpentier replied yes.

It was moved by Linda Murray and seconded by Brad Harriman to encumbrance not to exceed \$12, 874,380.59 for 2022 as recommended by Department Heads and Finance Director. Members voted, being none opposed, the motion passed.

C. Discussion: 2023 Estimated Revenues

Kathryn Carpentier addressed the Board to provide the estimated revenue report for 2023. This is informational and no vote is needed.

D. Approval: 2023 Default Budget

Kathryn Carpentier addressed the Board to present the proposed default budget for 2023 as presented.

It was moved by Brian Deshaies and seconded by Luke Freudenberg to approve the 2023 Default budget at \$ 30,669,065.00 as recommended by the Finance Director. Members voted, being none opposed, the motion passed.

E. Discussion: Warrant Articles: Police SRO, Fire Truck and Police Vehicle

Mr. Pineo reviewed a Powerpoint summarizing the Warrant Articles starting with the Fire Truck. He proposes two options for the Fire Truck; one is a lease purchase option and the second is the same with an additional year to lower the payments and reduces tax rate impact yearly. He summarized they are seeing significant issues with frames on the equipment. The lead time on apparatus is extended out so planning is necessary. Have confirmation from Seagraves to hold price until Town Meeting. Recommend consider the three or four option.

Mr. Deshaies questioned if the Board could suspend funds into the equipment reserve during the years, they are paying on the lease to give the taxpayer a break knowing a truck is not needed until 2034.

Mr. Pineo replied that is an option.

Mrs. Murray stated she would like to go for the four-year option. She feels this would be the best option to have the smallest impact because they are also asking for a new public safety building. Concerned asking for too much this year.

Brian Deshaies moved the Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen select the four-year option. Linda Murray seconded. Members voted all in favor, the motion passed.

Mr. Freudenberg questioned if financing is inhouse with Seagraves.

Chief Zotti replied it's a third-party vendor.

Mr. Pineo added they always check locally first and get the best interest rate.

It was moved by Luke Freudenberg and seconded by Brad Harriman to move the Fire Apparatus Warrant Article to the Warrant. Members voted being all in favor, the motion passed.

Mr. Pineo moved to the discussion on the Article for the replacement of the Police vehicle. He read the draft article.

It was moved by Luke Freudenberg and seconded by Brad Harriman to move the Police Vehicle to the Warrant. Members voted being all in favor, the motion passed.

Mr. Pineo moved to the discussion on the Article regarding the School Resource Officer. He summarized the article via the Powerpoint.

Mr. Wood proposes a change to the reference to the article. He spoke to Jake Widmer originally that the funding would be within operating budget, but now he has learned that they plan to put this out as a Warrant Article. He stated that the School Board plans to meet on January 9th in nonpublic session to discuss this Warrant Article.

Mr. Deshaies, he has problem if this is a nonpublic issue it should not be discussed right now. He stated that the Governor Wentworth School District has not discussed hiring a new SRO neither in public nor nonpublic session. He referred to previous discussions of no intentions to hire an additional resource officer and that the school board members did not know about the warrant article and there is no written proof that they discussed this request.

Mr. Wood questioned the meeting he was speaking to.

Mr. Deshaies replied it was the YouTube video of November 17th.

Mr. Wood believes it may be misunderstood. The Department originally requested two SRO's, one at the elementary school and one at the middle school. He explained they repurposed the Juvenile services officer as a part time SRO at the Middle School to deal with all the problems going on there.

Mr. Deshaies is not arguing the need or against it, he feels it hasn't been discussed at the extent it needs nor has the funding or appropriation has been discussed. He feels that it needs to be transparent and that funds are available and it's been discussed appropriately.

Mrs. Murray questioned how long they have to discuss this.

Ms. Carpentier replied the public hearing is January 11, 2023, for the Budget Committee.

Mrs. Murray stated that the Budget Committee can have an extra meeting to discuss this article. She has concerned that the number is not available, and they should follow the process.

Chairman Senecal agreed they should hear from the School Board first.

Shawn Coope disagrees, this is an important public safety issue the public should participate in and decide.

Chief Rondeau replied he does not think there is harm on tabling this until after the school board meeting.

Mr. Deshaies what if there is wording change by the school board, it makes sense to discuss it after.

Mr. Wood replied he does not think there will be any changes, they will sign a contract committing to their half of this.

Chief Rondeau stated we are overthinking this, this is a no brainer.

Ms. Carpentier replied that she believes Mrs. Murray has an issue with the process not the article. She stated if the school board meets on Jan. 9th, the Budget Committee meets on January 10th. There is a small window to get this moving.

Linda Murray moved the Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen hold a special meeting to discuss this article after the school board discusses it on January 9th. Brad Harriman seconded. Members voted, being all in favor, the motion passed.

F. Approval: 2022 Town Report bid award.

Kathryn Carpentier stated that the bids have been received on December 22, 2022, for the Town Report from the following:

- Country Press- \$ 3,095
- R.C. Brayshaw & Company LLC- \$3,563.00
- Foxpress- \$5,036.80

She stated that the recommendation is to award the bid to the lowest bidder, Country Press. This company did the report last year with no issues.

It was moved by Brad Harriman and seconded by Linda Murray for the Wolfeboro Board of Selectmen to award the bid for the 2022 Annual Town Report printing to Country Press for \$3,095. Members voted and all in favor, the motion passed.

Mr. Pineo updated the Board that they are having a problem with slate coming off the roof at Town Hall and the sidewalk is closed. He also noted that Pop Whalen opens January 3, 2023.

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

It was moved by Linda Murray and seconded by Luke Freudenberg to adjourn at 5:43 PM. Members voted, being none opposed, the motion passed.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amy Capone Muccio