

**TOWN OF HINESBURG
SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 19, 2015
- DRAFT -**

page 1 of 4

Attending the meeting; Jon Trefry, Phil Pouech, Mike Bissonette, Tom Ayer, Andrea Morgante, Trevor Lashua, Sue Barden, Katherine Kjelleren and, Al Barber

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

There were no public comments.
No changes to the agenda.

Sue Barden and Katherine Kjelleren were present to answer questions the Board had about the library budget.

Mike B asked how many full time equivalent employees are on the staff.

Sue said they average 167.5 FTE staff hours a week – this includes hours in addition to when the library is open for business.

Mike B also asked about the deferred maintenance and in what year they used the funds.

Sue responded that this year the capital expenditures were higher, they used all the deferred maintenance for that which included the funds not spent in the previous year.

Mike B would like a written list of planned expenditures for the library that will be covered with funds other than tax dollars. Sue agrees there should be a plan.

Mike B said he still feels 4 FTE is a lot of man hours - could use volunteers.

Phil asked how many total employees the library has.

Sue said there are 11 employees and they do have volunteers that work at the library also.

Phil asked what is included in the benefits line and Sue said that is the administrator's health insurance.

Katherine said the library had a plan for maintenance of the building written which includes the recommendation for funds to be put in deferred maintenance each year.

Phil asked about the St George contribution.

Sue said the \$500 is what she asked for, most St George residents use the Williston library. Phil pointed out the library is available even if not many St George residents use it.

Andrea suggested they consider doing the same as the Fire Dept. and charge a % of the operating budget.

Jon what the increase represents for salaries. Sue said the library board did not vote a cost of living adjustment, they just gave Sue a dollar amount to work with - example one employee just got their certification so will get an upgrade.

Jon asked about the rental from CVU.

Katherine said perhaps it is time to review again.

Andrea pointed out that the CVU program should be paid by the CVU towns, not just Hinesburg.

FY16 Budget Review and Discussion

The Board took a final look at the budget for each department.

The Selectboard budget has an increase in professional services to include the 1,000 for the economic development committee.

Phil said he would be willing to cut the stipend for board members to \$ 5500 from \$ 8150.

Clerk Treasurer - FICA numbers look off, Trevor will double check the FICA figure.

Planning and zoning Andrea asked for a job description and list of tasks to be done with the addition of part time help, she want to be sure to match the right skills for the need.

Planning Special projects – the Board agreed to submit letters for the Lantman intersection and Richmond Rd projects, however they will only fund one with the intersection at Lantman and Charlotte Rd. being the priority.

Buildings and facilities, the increase in professional services is to cover some of the work Rocky was doing such as sidewalk plowing and others.

Phil brought up the high cost of dispatch in the Community Police budget dispatch – he wonders if we could have an employee at the station to receive emergency calls instead of calls going to Shelburne.

Fire and Rescue – Jon asked if we still need emergency operating plan amount requested in EOP payroll. Al said some could be moved to the chief line. The Board agreed to keep as is so the time remains clear. Water – all agreed the FD should pay for water and track the usage as there is no meter.

Highway – Andrea asked about the line for the garage. We can carry the \$10,000 forward from last year, Andrea wants to be sure we continue to go ahead with master planning for the project.

Conservation Commission – Trevor will check if the Selectboard can change the number of members that make up the committee.

Library – Tom suggested reducing the request by the \$10,000 in the deferred maintenance. If a specific plan for that is shared it can be included.

Mike B feels there is not enough time before the warning is worded. He suggests to ask them to lower their budget to the same % increase as town budgets.

Andrea suggested a letter to the trustees regarding the town budget increase and asking for them to look at doing the same with their budget and to show the Board the projected contribution to the capital plan from the endowment funds.

Phil reduce to the same overall increase that the overall budget is at. SB directed Trevor to write the warning with the reduced amount.

CCTA funding for the bus service. Andrea supports and feels it should be promoted as it relieves traffic congestion and wear and tear on roads.

Jon feels there will be long term life but we are not there now.

Phil supports for those who need public transportation and also for local business to attract employees. Tom feels not a good value for the Town. He suggest to get community feedback it be voted as a separate article.

Tom moved the Board approve voting the CCTA budget as separate article at town meeting, Jon second.

Phil said on the surface makes sense but people who do not take the bus may not support but he believes bus service is a value for the town to have.

Jon inquired about the NRG funding – what would be the details if the town pulled out. Tom said CCTA manager in past said there is no penalty for the town to pull out,

Jon mentioned no Hinesburg service would effect ACTR and other communities, he would like to give it more time.

Mike B feels is important but not getting the value for the town.

Andrea feels this is supporting a regional effort and so while we may be paying more than our fair share she believes it is important to support regional transportation.

Motion voted Tom in favor, Andrea, Jon, Phil and Mike B opposed – motion failed.

Trevor noted Mike Potvin, chair of the Town Forest Committee, called on Thursday to request that \$1,500 be added to the proposed FY16 budget for maintenance and other work in the Town Forest. The Board approved the request.

Other warning items included.

Piggy Back Contract. Jon would like to keep it and look into reducing the penalty for someone pulling out. Board agreed

Remove delinquent tax collector position as elected position.

Mike – include the report will be available electronically, printed copies for those who want one can be picked up at Town Hall.

Town Administrator's Report

- a. **Lyman Meadows water issues** – The issues with the pump (replacement of) and supply tank stirred up the water and resulted in mysterious low pressure pockets throughout the development. One of the issues that may make its way to the Board is a resident's concern that the additional sediment may have led to an issue with a heating system. She posited to water/wastewater department personnel that the sediment plugged a narrow aperture in the unit's heating system, resulting in costly repairs. The resident mentioned to water/wastewater staff that she may attend a future Board meeting to discuss the matter.

- b. **December storm damage/cleanup update** – Vermont Emergency Management and FEMA representatives were in Town on Wednesday for an initial review. As was mentioned last week, it will likely be months before we know the amount of emergency management funds, if any, and when those will be available. Meanwhile, Teachers Tree Service continues its cleanup work.
- c. **Upcoming Meeting schedule** – The Board is busy, with meetings currently scheduled for: 1/26, 2/2 (water treatment presentation and discussion only), 2/9, and 2/23.

Selectboard

Jon said he received correspondence from the Rutland Selectboard chair regarding a resolution regarding the siting of renewable energy projects. They are requesting the Hinesburg Board sign the letter in support of the resolution. The Board members will review the resolution and act on the request at the next meeting.

Warrants

Andrea moved the Board vote to approve the warrants, including payroll, as submitted by the Town Treasurer. Second by Mike B and approved with 5 yes votes.

Minutes

Andrea moved the Board approve the minutes of 1/12 as amended, second by Jon and approved with 5 yes votes.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Spadaccini, secretary