

**TOWN OF DEERFIELD, NH**  
**MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
George B. White Building  
8 Raymond Rd. Deerfield, NH 03037

**November 25, 2020 7:00 PM via Zoom**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Meeting called to order by Chair at 7:00 PM**

**Roll Call: Present** - Herman Pretorius (Chair), Bill Von Hassel (Vice Chair), Zach Langlois, Bonnie Beaubein, Phil Bilodeau, Terry Roy, Maureen Quinn, JoAnne Bradbury

**Absent** - Andrew Robertson, Bradley Briggs, Jocelyn Messier

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve minutes as written from meeting on 11/10/2020 made by Mr. Pretorius, seconded by Mr. Langlois.

Vote: Yay 5, Nay 0, Abstain 3

Motion passed.

Mr. Pretorius added an item to the agenda, stating that a member has missed more than four meetings, will discuss later in the meeting.

**Budget Presentation**

**Fire/Rescue: \$300,905.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Mr. Pretorius**

Chief Matt Fisher presented the budget for the Fire & Rescue department, stated it is the same as the 2020 proposed budget. Mr. Langlois asked if line 192 Special Duty Stipends was closed intentionally. Chief Fisher stated that it is not needed because the revolving fund pays for stipends. Mr. Harrington said that the line should probably be kept at \$1.00 in case needed to keep open. **Mr. Langlois made a motion to add \$1.00 to line 192 for Special Duty Stipends, seconded by Ms. Quinn. Vote Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0. Motion passed.**

**Vote on motion to approve Fire/Rescue budget: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Water Holes/Forest Fires: \$6,503.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Quinn**

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Veasey Park: \$40,737.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Pretorius, seconded by Mr. Langlois**

Travis McCoy presented the budget for Veasey Park, stating that the substantial increase of \$10,700 is based on current and expected staffing needs for park guards and parking attendant. This would allow the park to be staffed 7 days/week 10:00 AM-6:00 PM and would allow lifeguards to be paid a competitive wage of \$11-\$13.00/hour, and would pay for uniforms & recertification for lifeguards.

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Highway Department Administration: \$217,335.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Mr. Pretorius**

Steve Rollins presented the budget, with some explanation from Mr. Harrington. Mr. Harrington stated the increase to the full time employee was due to COLA increases and also the default budget has not been keeping up with actual salaries.

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Highway Department Highways & Streets: \$388,133.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Quinn**

Mr. Rollins explained that the Winter Maintenance line had not been increased in more than 10 years and that they are not able to keep up with current expenses, which is the cause of the increase of \$65,164.

**Vote: Yay 5, Nay 1, Abstain 0** (One member lost internet connection during this vote and was unable to vote, that person rejoined the meeting after the vote was called.)

**Motion passed.**

**Highway Department Resurfacing: \$1,875.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Mr. Pretorius**

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Highway Department Road Repairs: \$331, 628.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Beaubein**

**Vote: Yay 6, Nay 1, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Highway Department Gravel: \$20,000.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Beaubein**

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Highway Department Bridge & Dams: \$1.00**

**Motion to approve made Mr. Langlois, seconded by Mr. Pretorius**

Mr. Rollins explained this is to keep the line open in case needed.

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Highway Department Dam: \$500.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Quinn**

Mr. Harrington explained this is the line for state fees and that the default budget hasn't kept up with the actual cost.

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Building Inspections: \$64,572.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Pretorius, seconded by Mr. Langlois**

Rick Pelletier presented the budget and stated the main increases are to the part time and full time employee lines. Mr. Pelletier stated he is planning to retire next year and the added money to the part time employee line would allow him to hire someone to transition into the department. Mr. Pelletier also explained that the vehicle he is using is 12 years old and needed a few repairs.

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Transfer Station Sanitation & Administration: \$82,581.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Mr. Pretorius**

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Transfer Station Solid Waste Collection: \$41,904.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlos, seconded by Ms. Beaubein**

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Transfer Station Solid Waste Disposal: \$292,000.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Beaubein**

Mr. Pelletier explained this increase is due to a substantial increase in tonnage due to the Covid-19 pandemic. He stated recyclables are almost non-existent, the return on them is low, there is no market for them and we are paying to dispose of recyclables.

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Revaluation of Property: \$84,284.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Quinn**

Mr. Harrington stated this budget is down \$8,000. The part time employee and contract appraiser are not making the same wage as the previous person.

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Town Administration: \$252,281.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Mr. Pretorius**

Mr. Harrington explained the increase in this budget is to his salary due to COLA increase, and the part time line current hourly wage. The default budget has not kept up with current salaries.

**Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Legal: \$44,000.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Quinn**

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Insurance: \$452,333.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Quinn**

Mr. Harrington explained health insurance is up slightly, dental is reduced. Retirement increased. Property insurance increased. Overall costs are down \$427.

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Personnel Administration: \$102,246.00**

**Motion to approve made by Mr. langlois, seconded by Ms. Beaubein**

**Vote: Yay 7, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

Mr. Langlois gave an update on the school budget. He stated that the school board would be giving it one more go over and that it should be completed on Wednesday.

Mr. Pretorius said the 12/5/2020 MBC meeting would be canceled, next meeting is 12/8/2020 to review the school budget.

Mr. Pretorius discussed that MBC member Brad Briggs has missed more than 4 meetings, which is cause for removal according to MBC rules. This leaves a vacancy on the MBC. The committee will have to appoint a new member to serve until March elections. Anyone who is interested in serving on the MBC should inquire with Mr. Pretorius before 12/15/2020.

**Mr. Langlois made a motion to approve the town budget in the amount of \$4,452,412.00, seconded by Ms. Beaubien.**

**Vote: Yay 6, Nay 1, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Citizens Comments: None**

**Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Quinn.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:47 PM**

These minutes were transcribed and respectfully submitted by  
Tina St. Peter, Recording Secretary  
Pending approval by the Municipal Budget Committee