

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

**November 10, 2020 7:00 PM via Zoom**  
**Meeting Minutes**

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

**Roll Call**

**Present:** Herman Pretorius, Bill Von Hassel, Zach Langlois, JoAnne Bradbury,  
Phil Bilodeau, Jocelyn Messier, Maureen Quinn

**Absent:** Terry Roy, Brad Briggs, Bonnie Beaubien

Mr. Pretorius noted that Mr. Langlois was having audio problems. Mr. Langlois will communicate visually.

**Approval of Minutes**

**1/18/20:** Motion to approve by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Messier.

Yay: 4, Abstain: 2, Nay: 0. Motion approved.

**8/13/20:** Motion to approve by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Mr. Von Hassel

Yay: 4, Nay: 0, Abstain: 2. Motion approved.

**Budget Presentations**

**Cemeteries: \$46,401.00**

**Motion to approve by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Mr. Von Hassel**

John Harrington presented the budget for the Cemetery Trustees as the chair, Rick Druckenmiller was not present at this meeting. Mr. Harrington explained that an increase was made to the superintendent line in hopes of attracting someone to the position. It is a hard to fill position, surrounding communities pay their superintendents more. An increase was also made to the tree care line as cemeteries are in desperate need of tree removal and maintenance in an effort to avoid costly damage to stones. Increase to contractors in effort to keep up with maintenance of cemeteries, perpetual care is not supporting the increased costs of maintenance. Added an amount for a membership to NHCA under dues & subscriptions. Supply increase is due to increase in cost of herbicides, paint & record preservation. Ms. Bradbury asked why the 2020 amount of \$5001.00 for tree care hadn't been spent but was increasing for 2021. Mr. Harrington explained that he met with Mr. Druckenmiller and the trustees had 3 bids for tree work in amounts of \$15,000+/-.

\$5001 will go towards that with the rest being paid for through private donation, as well as the rest of the unspent cemetery budget being used towards it.

**Vote: Yay 5, Nay 0, Abstain 1**

**Motion passed.**

**Heritage Commission: \$600.00**

**Motion to approve by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Messier**

Budget presented by Deborah Murphy. Ms. Murphy stated that the budget includes membership in NH Preservation Alliance, work on website, and a mailing.

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

**Library: \$153,557.00**

**Motion to approve by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Messier**

Budget presented by Mal Cameron and Candace Yost. Ms. Yost explained the additional amount for a children's librarian, a COLA increase in the part time budget, added a consultant line for possible legal consultation, contracts for new software as old software was insufficient, and increase in book budget due to the rising cost of books.

**Vote: Yay 4, Nay 2, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

**Supervisors of the Checklist: \$3933.00**

**Motion to approve by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Messier**

Budget was presented by Joanna Waring. Ms. Waring explained the budget is based on the number of elections being held that year. 2021 is a slow election year however, a state mandated purge is required this year which will require additional hours to review the checklist. Also increase in legal fees to send notices to newspapers and postage for letters to be mailed to those being purged from checklist. They are also requesting \$500.00 for a new shredder as the old one is not working.

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

**Motion passed.**

**Conservation Commission: \$3299.00**

**Motion to approve by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Messier**

Budget was presented by Erick Berglund. Mr. Berglund said the increase in the secretary line was an increase approved by the BOS. Ms. Bradbury said \$300 for legal seems irrational. Mr. Berglund explained it is hard to estimate that line, sometimes it is needed, sometimes not. Larger legal fees are paid for by the conservation fund, this is for smaller amounts not paid for by the fund.

**Vote: Yay 6, Nay 0, Abstain 0 Motion passed.**

**Ambulance: \$13,000.00**

**Motion to approve by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Messier**

Mr. Harrington explained this is one line for the contract with Raymond Ambulance. This is the last year of the contract. A proposed new contract is being reviewed by Fire & Rescue. The first year of that contract is \$13,000.00 if approved. If approved, it will be another 5 year contract with Raymond Ambulance.

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

**Motion passed.**

Mr. Von Hassel excused himself from the meeting for a moment.

**Forestry Commission: \$600.00**

**Motion to approve by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Messier**

No discussion

**Vote: Yay 5, Nay 0, Abstain 0**

**Motion passed.**

Mr. Von Hassel rejoined the meeting.

**Debt Services: \$1 tax anticipation line**

**Motion to approve by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Messier**

No discussion

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

**Motion passed.**

**Memorial Day: \$600.00**

**Motion to approve by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Messier**

Mr. Harrington explained this is for the purchase of flags to be placed on the graves of veterans in town during the Memorial Day ceremony.

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

**Motion passed.**

**Advertising & Regional Association: \$4,390.00**

**Motion to approve by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Messier**

Mr. Harrington explained this is the dues to the NH Municipal Association.

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

**Motion passed.**

**Zoning Board of Adjustment:**

**Motion to table by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Messier**

Mr. Pretorius asked Mr. Harrington if this could be added to next week's agenda. Mr. Harrington said he would ask Mr. Freed to join next week.

**Citizen's Comments: None**

**Motion to adjourn by Mr. Langlois, seconded by Ms. Messier**

**Meeting adjourned by Chair at 8:09 PM.**

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