TOWN OF DEERFIELD, NH Municipal Budget Committee

George B. White Building 8 Raymond Rd. Deerfield, NH 03037

November 7, 2023 **Meeting Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM.

Zach Langlois made a motion to allow remote participation, seconded by Maureen Quinn. Roll Call vote was held: Yay - Bonnie Beaubien, Maureen Quinn, Josh Cresswell, Andrea Hotaling, Erroll Rhodes, Leah McHugh, Zach Langlois, Terry Roy, Nay - Kevin Verville, Abstain - None. Motion passed. A roll call vote will be used for all votes for this meeting due to the remote participation.

Roll Call: Present - Terry Roy, Maureen Quinn, Zach Langlois, Bonnie Beaubien, Kevin Verville, Josh Cresswell, Andrea Hotaling, Erroll Rhodes, Leah McHugh, Will Huebner (participating remotely), Not Present - Jocelyn Messier

Approval of Minutes: The board will take the minutes of the last meeting up at the next meeting as not everyone had a chance to review them.

The board members welcomed Leah McHugh to the MBC.

Town Budget

Executive: \$16,001.00

Mr. Langlois made a motion to recommend approval of the Executive budget in the amount of \$16,001.00, seconded by Ms. Quinn. John Harrington answered questions from the board and explained changes from last year.

Roll Call Vote: Yay - Mr. Huebner, Ms. Beaubien, Ms. Quinn, Mr. Cresswell, Mr. Verville, Mr. Rhodes, Ms. McHugh, Mr. Langlois, Mr. Roy, Ms. Hotaling

Nay - None Abstain - None

Motion passed.

Forestry: \$6.00

Mr. Langlois made a motion to recommend approval of the Forestry budget in the amount of \$6.00, seconded by Ms. Quinn. Phil Bilodeau answered questions from the board.

Roll Call Vote: Yay - Mr. Huebner, Ms. Beaubien, Ms. Quinn, Mr. Cresswell, Mr. Verville, Mr. Rhodes, Ms. McHugh, Mr. Langlois, Mr. Roy, Ms. Hotaling

Nay - None Abstain - None

Motion passed.

Debt Service: \$1.00

Mr. Langlois made a motion to recommend approval of the Debt Service budget in the amount of \$1.00, seconded by Mr. Cresswell. Mr. Harrington explained this is to keep the line open in case the town needs to acquire a bond.

Roll Call Vote: Yay - Mr. Huebner, Ms. Beaubien, Ms. Quinn, Mr. Cresswell, Mr. Verville, Mr. Rhodes, Ms. McHugh, Mr. Langlois, Mr. Roy, Ms. Hotaling

Nay - None Abstain - None

Motion passed.

Advertising/Regional Associations: \$4,840.00

Mr. Langlois made a motion to recommend approval of the Advertising/Regional Associations budget in the amount of \$4,840.00, seconded by Ms. Quinn. Mr. Huebner explained this is the dues for membership in the NH Municipal Association.

Roll Call Vote: Yay - Mr. Huebner, Ms. Beaubien, Ms. Quinn, Mr. Cresswell, Mr. Rhodes, Ms. McHugh, Mr. Langlois, Mr. Roy, Ms. Hotaling

Nay - Mr. Verville Abstain - None

Motion passed.

Memorial Day: \$600.00

Mr. Langlois made a motion to recommend approval of the Memorial Day budget in the amount of \$600.00, seconded by Mr. Verville.

Mr. Harrington answered questions from the board.

Roll Call Vote: Yay - Mr. Huebner, Ms. Beaubien, Ms. Quinn, Mr. Cresswell, Mr. Rhodes, Ms. McHugh, Mr. Langlois, Mr. Roy, Ms. Hotaling, Mr. Verville

Nay - None Abstain - None

Motion passed.

Supervisors of the Checklist: \$4624.00

Mr. Langlois made a motion to recommend approval of the Supervisors of the Checklist budget in the amount of \$4624.00, seconded by Mr. Verville.

Joanna Waring answered questions from the board. She explained that the budget is based on the number of elections in a year and that next year is a busy year for elections.

Roll Call Vote: Yay - Mr. Huebner, Ms. Beaubien, Mr. Cresswell, Mr. Rhodes, Ms. McHugh, Mr. Langlois, Mr. Roy, Ms. Hotaling, Mr. Verville

Nay - None

Abstain - Ms. Quinn

Motion passed.

Zoning Board of Appeals: \$6512.00

Mr. Verville made a motion to recommend approval of the Zoning Board of Appeals budget in the amount of \$6512.00, seconded by Ms. Quinn.

Spencer Tate answered questions from the board. He explained that most of the increase in their budget is due to staffing.

Roll Call Vote: Yay - Mr. Huebner, Ms. Beaubien, Mr. Cresswell, Mr. Rhodes, Ms. McHugh, Mr. Langlois, Mr. Roy, Ms. Hotaling, Mr. Verville, Ms. Quinn

Nay - None Abstain - None

Motion passed.

Cemeteries: \$48,901.00

Mr. Langlois made a motion to recommend approval of the Cemeteries budget in the amount of \$48,901.00, seconded by Ms. Quinn.

Phil Bilodeau answered questions from the board.

Mr. Langlois made a motion to increase the contractor's line to by \$20,000, from \$30,000 to \$50,000. The motion was seconded by Ms. Quinn. Mr. Langlois defended his motion by saying the town has an obligation to maintain the cemeteries.

Roll Call Vote on the motion to increase the contactor line:

Yay - Ms. Quinn, Ms. Beaubien, Mr. Rhodes, Mr. Langlois

Nay - Mr. Huebner, Mr. Cresswell, Mr. Verville, Ms. Hotaling, Ms. McHugh, Mr. Roy

Abstain - None

Motion failed.

Roll Call Vote on motion to recommend approval of budget:

Yay - Mr. Huebner, Ms. Beaubien, Mr. Cresswell, Mr. Rhodes, Ms. McHugh, Mr. Langlois, Mr. Roy, Ms. Hotaling, Mr. Verville, Ms. Quinn

Nay - None

Abstain - None

Motion passed.

Heritage Commission: \$600.00

Mr. Langlois made a motion to recommend approval of the Heritage Commission budget in the amount of \$600,00, seconded by Mr. Cresswell.

Debra Murphy answered questions from the board.

Roll Call Vote: Yay - Mr. Huebner, Ms. Beaubien, Mr. Cresswell, Ms. McHugh, Mr. Langlois, Mr. Roy, Ms. Hotaling, Mr. Verville, Ms. Quinn

Nay - None

Abstain - Mr. Rhodes

Motion passed.

Library: \$189,522.00

Mr. Langlois made a motion to recommend approval of the Library budget in the amount of \$189,552.00, seconded by Ms. Beaubien.

Anne Meyers answered questions from the board.

Roll Call Vote: Yay - Mr. Huebner, Ms. Beaubien, Mr. Cresswell, Ms. McHugh, Mr. Langlois, Mr. Roy, Ms. Hotaling, Mr. Verville, Ms. Quinn, Mr. Rhodes

Nay - None

Abstain - None

Motion passed.

Conservation Commission: \$3488.00

Mr. Langlois made a motion to recommend approval of the Conservation Commission budget in the amount of \$3488.00, seconded by Ms. Quinn.

Mr. Rhodes answered questions from the board.

Roll Call Vote: Yay - Mr. Huebner, Ms. Beaubien, Mr. Cresswell, Ms. McHugh, Mr. Langlois,

Mr. Roy, Ms. Hotaling, Mr. Verville, Ms. Quinn

Nay - None

Abstain - Mr. Rhodes

Motion passed.

School Board Budget:

Mr. Langlois gave an update on the status of the school board budget. He said the school board is still working but that copies of what has been done so far were provided at the last school board meeting to the three MBC members who attended the meeting.

Citizens Comments: Harriet Cady said she is concerned with the cost of association dues. She said associations must by law differentiate how much time is spent lobbying. Ms. Cady would like to see revenue from applications/fees/etc included in the budgets as an offset to the expenses paid. She also said she thinks the town should purchase land for another cemetery.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.