

SELECTBOARD BUDGET WORK SESSION MINUTES

December 21, 2011

This meeting was called to order by Chair Tom Bodett at 7:00pm at the Town Offices in Dummerston, Vermont.

Members Present: Tom Bodett, Greg Brown, Zeke Goodband, Bill Holiday, Lewis White

Also Present: Lee Chamberlin, Marty Forrett, Rick Looman, Jean & Harold Newell, Gail Sorenson

Gail Sorenson and Jean Newell presented the recommended Social Services budget, which is level-funded with a few changes from last year's allocations.

Fire Chief, Rick Looman and Asst. Chief, Marty Forrett spoke about the Fire Department's capital budget. They've level-funded their request for fire protection at \$45,000. They said that fire truck prices are increasing an average of 3% per year; therefore, in 2018 the price will probably be closer to \$250,000, and the required payment in 2018 will be \$50,000.

The Board asked Lee to review and revise the numbers on the Capital Budget.

The Board discussed wages for the Town Clerk and Treasurer/Selectboard Assistant. Zeke moved to give them a 5% increase; Bill seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

The Board discussed payment in lieu of health insurance. Both Pam McFadden and Laurie Frechette have opted out of taking the Town's health insurance for 2012. Zeke moved to pay \$2000 in four payments of \$500 to Pam and Laurie; Bill seconded the motion and it passed 5-0.

Zeke moved to set the Zoning Administrator's salary at \$12,000 (a 7% +/- increase). Bill seconded the motion. They accepted a friendly amendment from Lewis to pencil this figure in; the motion passed 5-0 as amended.

Greg moved to accept the budget as recommended by the Social Services Advisory Committee. Bill seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

Greg moved to authorize Tom to ask Lee for an amount on increased culverts. Lewis seconded the motion; it passed 5-0.

The Board discussed at length possible cuts to make in the budget.

With no other business to come before the Board, a motion to adjourn was accepted at 9:35pm.

Approved

Tom Bodett, Chair

Zeke Goodband, Clerk

Submitted by: Zeke Goodband, Clerk