

UNAPPROVED

**SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
BUDGET WORK SESSION**

December 20, 2023

This meeting was called to order by Zeke Goodband at 5:00 pm at the Town Office in Dummerston, Vermont.

Members present: Zeke Goodband, Maria Glabach, Lewis White, Todd Davidson,
Alex Wilson

Members absent:

Also present: Gail Sorenson, Paul Normandeau, Ruth Hoffman, Beverly Tier, Larry Pratt, Leon Dunbar,
David Shaw

The Board reviewed the general fund and estimated the County Tax, changed the lawnmowing to reflect the actual costs.

The Fire Department has canceled the original truck on order. They reviewed with the Board the specs for a small tanker truck which they feel will be better suited for the Town. The new proposed truck will be shorter, a two person cab, less compartments and hold 2000 gallons of water. The Fire Department feels this new proposed truck should last well over 20 years. Lee, Road Foreman, has given the okay for the new truck to cross the covered bridge. The cost will be \$469,411.00 which is less than the original truck. The Board will still have to figure interest in addition to the cost of the truck for the Capital Budget Plan. Prior to the regular meeting on 12/27 the Fire Department will send the Board a new contract to sign.

The Board also discussed ARPA funds with the Fire Department. They will be returning unused funds and submitting a request for other uses. They will get the request to the Board prior to the 12/27 meeting, so it can be included on the agenda.

The Board discussed the Highway Fund and Wages. Some changes were made to the wages and budgeted overtime hours were increased slightly.

At this point, Lewis recused himself, left the table and sat with the public to discuss the part-time hourly rate. The Board increased the rate from \$18.00 to \$23.91, taking into consideration that part-time does not receive any benefits.

The Capital Plan was changed to reflect the cost and estimated interest on the new proposed fire truck.

Maria will update all worksheets and send to Laurie for posting on the Town website.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Maria and second from Lewis the Board voted 5-0 to enter Executive Session as provided in Vermont Statute Title 1, Chapter 5, Subsection 2, 313(a), #1 for a legal matter at 7:00 pm.

On a motion by Lewis and second from Todd the Board voted 5-0 to leave Executive Session and reconvene the meeting at 7:20 pm.

The legal services line was increased to \$3,000.00.

There being no other business to come before the Board, Alex made the motion and second from Maria, the meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

Approved

Zeke Goodband, Chair

Lewis White, Vice-Chair

Submitted by Maria Glabach, Clerk