

**Minutes for Waterboro Budget Committee Meeting
February 16, 2023 at Waterboro Town Hall Selectmen's Meeting Room
4:30 p.m. Meeting**

Attendance Budget Committee: John Burrows chairman, Debra Burrows, Christina Giordano, and Diane Seehagen. Thomas Lee was absent.

Other Attendees: Matt Bors, Dennis Abbott, Dwayne Woodsome, Laura Fish, Glenn Seehagen, and Laura Lowe.

Chairman Burrows started the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

1. Old Business

a. Discuss CIP- Dept. 92 - DPW Building

Matt went over the costs for snow plowing. Our current contract is \$560,000 from October to April with Dayton Snow Fighters. The new contract for the 2023 – 2024 FY is a three year contract with Dayton Snow Fighters with a two year extension option. The contract is for \$728,000 with a 2% increase each year. There is also a clause that states after two years of the contract the Town and contractor may negotiate a reduction in costs for up to two established plow routes, should the Town be equipped to plow/sand the routes. This clause was put into the contract because Paul Poirier, the owner of Dayton Snow fighters, has expressed possible retirement after three years as his health has been up and down. Additionally, when we put the snowplowing/sanding out for bid in 2017 and again just recently, we only had one bidder. We do not know what will happen in three years but we do not want to be left without a contractor or equipment to plow for ourselves if needed. We do not have any other options. If we are going to plow we first need to have a facility to house the trucks. Our current DPW facility (used previously as a salt shed) will not house the trucks we need or support future growth. Matt put together a spreadsheet looking at current staff, the facility, staffing, and equipment costs for the future. If we stick with a contractor for plowing, in ten years we will be paying over one million dollars just for plowing not including the sand and salt costs. Therefore, Jason and Matt went and looked at other nearby Town's facilities because we need to start planning. Our neighboring Town Buxton built a facility about eight years ago for \$1.7 Million for a 10,000 square foot building that is not big enough for all the storage that is needed. Matt would like to propose a 12,000 square foot building. He obtained a draft drawing of the building they think will be sufficient. He did all this so that the public, Budget Committee, and Select Board would know about the situation that is at hand and discussions can start.

Dennis Abbott feels that we have three years to execute this plan and the worst thing we could do is to get ahead of ourselves. The public is going to have to make the decision. In three years we should be at 50-60% of the Town doing the plowing.

Diane Seehagen wanted to re-look at Dept. 92-CIP line 514 (account #92-01-45-7015 Buildings) for the Public Works Facility. There was discussion on whether or not the planning should take place now or not. It was decided that it would be a good idea to put the \$50,000 in line 514 to start the planning process.

Diane Seehagen made a motion to amend Dept. 92-CIP, line 514, by adding \$50,000 for this budget line and to make the grand total for Dept. 92 to \$404,820. Debra Burrows seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 – 0.

b. Voting for Departments 95-Miscellaneous Accounts and 97-Old Home Days

Matt stated that the \$26,000+ that the OHD Committee has should be enough with the \$8,000 budgeted for this Fiscal Year (FY) to pay for this FY event and to put deposits down for the next.

Christina Giordano made a motion to approve the \$8,000 for Dept. 97-Old Home Days. Debra Burrows seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 – 0.

Matt stated that the amount for Contract Deputy actually went down from last fiscal year because the previous Contract Deputy was at a higher wage than our current new Contract deputy.

Debra Burrows made a motion to approve the \$795,080 for Dept. 95-Miscellaneous Accounts. Christina Giordano seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 – 0.

c. Wrap up any additional questions – there were none.

2. Discuss/vote to accept the minutes of the February 06, 2023 meeting

Debra Burrows made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 6, 2023 meeting. Diane Seehagen seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 – 0.

3. Adjourn

Debra Burrows made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:41 p.m. Christina Giordano seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 – 0.