

Town of Tuftonboro
Budget Committee Meeting
January 9, 2024

Present: Rob Roriston, Gary Chehames, David Dauphinais, Brendan Gaughran, Chris Sawyer, and Selectman Albee, also present were Selectman Murray, Selectman Pike and Town Administrator Fraizer

Absent: Jeff Reisner

Chairman Roriston called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

It was determined there was a quorum followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Public Input: There was no public input.

Chairman Roriston Comments: Thanked the Town Administrator for her efforts.

Approval: David Dauphinais made a motion to approve the minutes of December 19, 2023. The motion was seconded by Gary Chehames. The motion passed unanimously.

Budget Items for Approval

Chairman Roriston called for a vote on each of the following budgets:

4196 Insurance in the amount of \$88,205. Chris Sawyer made a motion to approve, the motion was seconded by David Dauphinais. The motion passed unanimously.

4415 Health Agencies in the amount of \$41,241. Chris Sawyer made a motion to approve, the motion was seconded by Brendan Gaughran. The motion passed unanimously.

4313 Docks & Bridges in the amount of \$5,000. Chris Sawyer made a motion to approve, the motion was seconded by Brendan Gaughran. The motion passed unanimously.

4312 Highway Chairman Roriston requested the Highway budget be tabled until the next meeting. He would like to see the basis of the charges between years for hours and materials.

4210 Police in the amount of \$509,426. Chris Sawyer made a motion to approve, the motion was seconded by David Dauphinais. The motion passed unanimously.

Budget Items for Consideration

4150 Finance Administration / Tax Collector The Budget Committee review the various categories and asked for clarification of what is included in various categories including Equipment Lease and Service, Telephone, Computer Software Lease and Support, and Computer Maintenance and IT Support. The Town Administrator explained the cost of the internet is now combined in the Telephone line item which results in the increase for 2024 but the Equipment Lease and Services has a corresponding decrease. The Software Lease includes the software for the Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Assessing and Finance.

4155 Personnel Administration The Budget Committee was provided with a spreadsheet detailing the Personnel Administration expenses which include Healthcare, Longevity and Taxes.

4194 Municipal Buildings The Budget Committee reviewed the requested budget without question.

4199 General Government There were no questions about the General Government budget.

Draft Warrant Article List

The Board reviewed a draft list of the 2024 Warrant Articles. The Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen discussed the Mirror Lake article which is a loan from the State that is forgiven upon completion of the study. The Selectmen anticipate the Conservation Commission may get a grant for the property purchase. The Budget Committee felt the Town Shed should be reduced to \$50K without having bids. There was also significant discussion regarding the Contingency Fund, the Budget Committee recommends it be written for \$75K. The price of a loader for the Transfer Station seemed high. The Budget Committee stressed again to Selectman Albee that they would like proformas from the solar companies.

Adjourn

Chris Sawyer made a motion to adjourn at 8:06 p.m., the motion was seconded by David Dauphinais. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Audrey Fraizer