

# TOWN OF HUDSON



## Budget Committee

Ted Trost, Chairman

Normand Martin, Vice-Chairman



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## Meeting Minutes 04 January 2023 Draft

### A. Call to Order

Vice-Chairman Normand Martin called the meeting to order in the Buxton Community Development Room at Town Hall 7:00 PM; quorum present.

### B. Pledge of Allegiance

Vice-Chairman Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### C. Attendance

Vice-Chairman Normand Martin, Richard Weissgarber, Shawn Murray, William Cole, Kathy Leary, Select Board Liaison David Morin, Board of Education Liaison Gretchen Whiting.

Chairman Ted Trost, Alejandro Urrutia, Robert Clegg (Excused); Patrick Quinlan (Absent)

### D. Public Input

Vice-Chairman Martin opened the floor for Public Input at 7:01 PM. Kevin Walsh, 5 Stoney Lane, rose to speak. He commented on the current economic situation, the recent Town Assessment, the end of year fund balances, and the budgeting process. Public Input was closed at 7:10 PM.

## **E. Old Business**

**School Budget:** The alignment of the Special Education budget relative to the tuition and transportation costs for out-of-district placements was discussed. Member Cole asked for clarification and School Board Liaison Whiting said that a spreadsheet being provided by the School District may answer these questions.

## **F. New Business**

### **Town Budget Discussion**

Town Administrator Steve Malizia reviewed the Warrant Articles. Two petitioned Warrant Articles will be discussed at the next Board of Selectmen's meeting. He noted that the Board voted to use American Rescue Plan Funds (ARPA) for three town projects.

**MOTION:** To reduce the FY24 General Fund Operating Budget line item 5554-221 by \$30,000, line item 5554-406 by \$20,000, and line item 5585-225 by \$75,000. These projects are being funded using American Rescue Plan Act funds. (Murray, Weissgarber). Motion passed 7-0.

### **Review of Warrant Articles**

M. Town Supervisors' Contract: Five-year contract with 3% COLA per year.

N. Public Works Employees' Contract: One year contract with 3 % COLA.

P. Revolving Fund for Public Safety Services (New). No appropriation.

Petitioned Warrant Article for New Police Officer: \$126, 147 cost.

General Operating Budget: \$33,527,659 without Warrant Articles.

**MOTION:** To add \$12,500 to line 5640-105 for investigative overtime. (Weissgarber/Cole). Motion failed 3-4.

**MOTION:** To reduce line 5571-100 from \$113,351 to \$56,675.50. (Cole/Murray). Discussion of Associate Planner/Code Enforcement position. Motion failed 3-4.

**MOTION:** To reduce line 5200-218 from \$93,000 to \$75,000, a reduction of \$18,000. (Cole/Murray). Discussion of legal services. Motion failed 1-6.  
Review of Warrant Articles B-P.  
Discussion of petitioned Warrant Article T (new police officer).

## **G. Reports From Liaisons**

**Select Board:** Nothing to report.

**School Board:** The School Board will be represented by Chair Gary

Gasdia at the January 12, 2023 Public Hearing. Discussion of prior Budget Committee meeting.

## **H. Acceptance of Minutes: No minutes to accept.**

## **I. Other Business/Comments**

Discussion of Budget Committee budget cuts to the School Board budget as being in response to year-end fund balances and how the School Board can transfer money within its budget.

Board of Selectmen vacancy to be discussed at the Board's January 10, 2023 meeting.

Further discussion of Public Input from Kevin Walsh.

The Public Hearing will take place January, 12, 2023 at the Community Center. Warrant articles will be reviewed; public can speak after which public input will be closed. Budget Committee will then vote on its recommendations. Vice-Chair Martin will be unable to attend.

## **J. Adjournment**

**MOTION TO ADJOURN:** (Murray/Weissgarber). Motion carried 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 PM.

Prepared by Kathleen Leary