

**SELECT BOARD BUDGET MEETING
OCTOBER 17, 2022, 4:00 p.m.**

Those present: Mike Hogan, Fred Ducharme, Skip Bothfeld, Michelle Leclerc, Betty Ritter, Elizabeth Vitale, Judy Dunnan, Dale Brown for Executive Session, for the rest of meeting: Kurt Steinert, Kathleen Hoyne (for Library, Amy Hornblas, Jeanne Johnson (for Listers); via zoom: R.D. Eno, Frank Kampf

1. Call meeting to order – the meeting was called to order by Mike Hogan at 4:01 P.M.
2. Approve Agenda – a motion was made by Fred with a second by Skip. Motion carried.
3. Public Comment – There was no public comment.
4. Executive Session 4:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m. – discussion of sale of Masonic Hall. Because this will be discussed in Executive Session, Mike asked for a motion to go into executive session to discuss a real estate matter. Fred moved that we go into executive session with a second by Skip. Motion carried. We went into executive session at 4:10 p.m. We came out of executive session at 4:45 p.m.
5. Before we had the budget meeting with the Library Amy Hornblas read the letter, she sent to the CVRPC resigning from her position as representative from Cabot.
6. Library - The Library went over their proposed budget for the year explaining the need for the continuance of the Children’s Librarian and was asking if there would be any ARPA money for this position. Kurt went over the strong demand for a youth librarian. Mike said that we used \$25,000 from the ARPA funds to begin this position and at that time and asked that the Library would find a way to sustain this position. Mike wanted to know if there are any reports of the surrounding libraries. Kathleen – said that she has and used the COLA 8.7% for payroll and included a small amount of increasing collection of books. They are also looking to upgrade the library and put it closer to the State Library Standard. They are trying to be conservative of what the patrons would like to have for the library. Kurt stated that the patrons are happy with the upgrades of the library. Kathleen feels that these are the numbers that the Library needs for the upcoming fiscal year.
7. 5:30 Listers – We met with Jeanne Johnson she submitted a budget with little change from last year. Mike wanted to know about mandatory training for listers. Jeanne stated there is no mandatory training, but the training they offer is in the best interest of their doing their job correctly. Fred wanted to know about re-appraisal. It does look like we will have to do another appraisal. She is checking into a “statistical appraisal” but does not know the cost of what that would be at this time. She did note that most other towns are in the same situation and all appraisers are out straight currently. A statistically appraisal would be around \$20,000. CLA is the real issue, it does affect every landowner. The Towns that did the appraisal before the big prices for land should somehow be adjusted. The legislature will say that we are getting money for the maintenance of the grand list at \$8.50 per parcel. We paid \$77,000 for the last appraisal. Mike thought the statistical appraisal might be interesting. We could have it in 2024, if possible because the appraisal companies are swamped. It was 15 years between the appraisals. RD would like to get a memo to understand the process. Jeanne will try to get something together to give the Board.
8. Other Business – there was no other business.
9. Adjourn – A motion was made by Fred with a second by Skip to adjourn. Motion carried. We adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Ritter Town Clerk/Treasurer