

**SELECTBOARD BUDGET MEETING MINUTES  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2023, 4:00 P.M.**

1. Call the Meeting to Order - The meeting was called to order by Mike at 4:00 p.m.
2. Approve Agenda - A motion was made by Fred with a second by Karen, motion carried.
3. Executive Session – Sale of Real Estate – A motion was made by RD with a second by Fred, motion carried. We went into Executive Session at 4:01 p.m. and came out of ES at 4:50 p.m.
4. Public Comment – there was no public comment.
5. Budget Preparation

Mapping – We are finding more and more that we need this mapping. It can help the FD, DRB meeting identify, makes function a little easier and errors will be less. We have the oldest mapping area in the State of Vermont. It would be around \$3,000 a year to maintain, however our information would need to be updated as we are five years out of date. Mike wanted to know if there are other border towns that we could work with. It would cost around \$18,000 to bring us up to date. CVRPC – has not been helpful. Jeanne will send a letter to surrounding towns to see if there would be a cost cut if we all did this.

Highway – Sid interviewed Tim Celley. It seems that future employees would like to see an insurance package of something for health, dental, and vision. We will check into this. Tyler Mayo can start anytime if we can get him the drug test and will be part time. Bridges are a big concern. Also, trucking is a big item that we need to address whether to lease or buy. Whittier Hill needs to be addressed also. The question came up about Class IV roads. We have more people living on these roads, whereas we didn't have people living on these roads previously. The problem is that we don't have room on the roads. There is a possibility of a Class 4 roads rotation. Two items that keep coming up is equity and emergency services. This will be discussed at a future meeting. We went over the budget needs for the highway and will firm this up soon.

Tree Warden - Game of Logging Training would be the trainer for taking down the Ash Trees. It is a 4-day training. The State does provide this training. This training is important for road crews, as Ash Trees are very brittle, and they are very unpredictable. Roland would recommend \$10,000 plus \$4,000 for training. The bigger trees are the biggest concern. Game of Logging charges all four levels would, and it would be \$800-900. This training is usually done on weekends.

Legal - \$10,000 last year – remains the same.

6. Other business: Approval of Outside Consumption Permit – St. Johnsbury Distillery and for Harry's Hardware. A motion was made by Fred with a second by Skip, motion carried.
7. Motion to Adjourn – A motion was made by Fred with a second by Karen, motion carried, and we adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Betty Ritter