

**SELECTBOARD BUDGET MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2024, 6:00 P.M.**

Those present: Mike Hogan, Fred Ducharme, Skip Bothfeld, RD Eno, Karen Larsen, Amy Monahan, Frank Kampf, Jeanne Johnson, Betty Ritter, Erin Riddell, Kathleen Hoyne, Kris Schmidt, Dana Glazier, Roland Payne; Cameron via zoom

1. Call Meeting to Order – the meeting was called to order by Mike Hogan at 6:00 p.m.
2. Approve Agenda - A motion was made by Skip with a second by Fred. Motion carried.
3. Public Comment – there was no public comment.
4. Meetings with different committees

Development Review Board: Keep it the same as last year (\$600.00)

Library: Salary – increase of 3.85% (cola is 2.5% and put in another 2% per their Personnel Policy. Amanda would be at an additional increase of 1%).

Kathleen wanted to thank Amanda for the work on the flood program. Everyone acknowledged that this was an excellent program.

RD questioned about the error in computing payroll taxes that ran the library into a deficit. He wanted to know that if they removed the deficit what would the amount needed would be. Erin stated that she is just not beginning to understand this and will need to work on this.

Telephone and Internet went down due to a fiber grant.

The Health Insurance stipend remains the same.

They are hoping to get a capital grant for lighting, laptop, and upgrade for the kitchen.

The Friends of the Library carries around \$1,200 and if the library needs something they can ask them for help.

It was pointed out that grants are not listed as income. They stated that they are specifically for particular items.

What about fund-raising? We are doing programs that bring in some funds.

They also pointed out that kids are using the library more and more, but it is unknown about an increase in adult usage.

Listers: They are pretty well set on training. It was suggested that the number of hours for Jeanne's position be increased. They are looking to replace one computer.

Recreation: – Cameron – budget on the \$10,000 for years and would like to increase it to \$12,000. We have lighting to go up, which Aaron will be donating his time, and this will be done in the Spring. They do have a grant covering the poles, the only additional cost would be the concrete blocks, which would be upfront money. Aaron believed there was a light on the original field and if that is the case, this could be reimbursed by FEMA. RD thought it would be useful to have a log of hours even for volunteer time.

Karen wanted to check about cleanup for Tim's rec field. She asked Cameron about getting a few people together for a morning workday. Cameron stated that he needs help with getting the goals out. It was suggested to ask one of the men that have an excavator and check with Greg from Cabot garage to use his flatbed to move them.

Trails: This would be the same. They still need more volunteers. Mike wanted to know about who does the enforcement. The only thing they could remark about this is if a landowner does not want horses on the trails, they must abide by this.

Karen wondered about accessibility for people with needs. Dana as put in an assessment to see if our trails are adaptable. The trails are open for non-motorized vehicles and bikes.

Tree Warden: Emerald Ash Borer is not found in Molly's Pond, Talbert's property, Bailey Hazen Road. (This will be discussed in our October 28 meeting with the highway helping with the removal of these trees.)

Karen asked about the trees around the old fire station property. He has purchased 200 balsam trees at a cost of \$1.50/piece.

Conservation: They would like to increase their budget to \$2,000.

Flood Resiliency Task Force: They would keep it the same at \$1,500. Gary also mentioned they should receive an engineering report next week.

5. Other Business: We are in fairly good shape apart from the flood expenses and we are working with FEMA for reimbursement.
6. Motion to Adjourn A motion was made by Skip with a second by Fred. We adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Betty Ritter, Town Clerk.