

**TOWN OF NEW DURHAM
BUDGET COMMITTEE JOINT MEETING WITH BOARD OF SELECTMEN
August 16, 2021, 7:00P.M.
New Durham Town Hall, New Durham, NH 03855**

PRESENT

Terry Jarvis, Chair, Budget Committee
Mark Sullivan, Vice Chair, Budget Committee
Kenneth Fanjoy, Budget Committee
Joan Swenson, Budget Committee
Rudy Rosiello, Budget Committee
Marc Decoff, Budget Committee

ALSO PRESENT

Nicole Zoltko, Town Administrator
David Swenson, Select Board Chair
Dorothy Veisel, Select Board Member
Ron Uyeno, Select Board Member

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jarvis called the Budget Committee meeting to order at 7:00PM.

Town Administrator Zoltko distributed a packet for review by the Board and Committee including dates for budget review meetings.

Chair Jarvis stated the goal was to avoid having people coming two or three different evenings so the dates were changed. The public hearing for the budget will be Wednesday, January 19, 2022 with Thursday, January 20, 2022 as the snow date.

Chair Swenson presented comparisons of the budgets for the last few years. He stated he went back and reviewed historical figures from warrant articles since 2017 and outlined some statistics: the compound growth rate for the operating budget is 2.7%; CPI for the same dates is 1.87. He stated some items which contributed include wage adjustments in the last two to three years but there was not a large increase in 2020. He noted there were some revenue surpluses in these years.

The Board reviewed some baseline concepts outlined by Chair Swenson. Chair Swenson stated they anticipate equal or above 2021 tax revenue collection; changes in budget accounts will happen due to wage adjustments made in 2021; in 2021 the Town received various federal and state funds; the Town received \$130,000 to \$140,000 from American Recovery Act funds for restricted spending; 2021 ARPA funds will be considered unanticipated while 2022 funds will have to be budgeted. The guidelines for spending funds have been received by the Board of Selectmen. Chair Swenson stated some of the projects proposed and discussed at the recent public hearing include police body cameras, replacement of AED in Town facilities, removal of underground tanks on Town property, cyanobacteria mitigation, printers at Town Hall, engineering work for culvert, painting of the roads, scale for the solid waste facility, consultation

for ZBA and Planning Board ordinances to clear up language ambiguity and conflicts, and employee retention. Mr. Rosiello stated the State of New Hampshire signed an agreement with the State of Massachusetts to take on some solid waste so there may be opportunity more money for materials. Town Administrator Zoltko stated the Board of Selectmen will be authorized to make designation for what funds are used for.

Chair Swenson stated the Board of Selectmen tries to set the tax rates in early November.

Mr. Sullivan confirmed the Board of Selectmen would be advising departments to work towards level funding. Chair Swenson stated that is correct, with the exception of wages. Chair Jarvis stated increases need to be well defended.

The Board and Committee reviewed and discussed suggested meeting dates.

ADJOURN

Mr. Swenson made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Decoff seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Riel

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary