

TOWN OF NEW DURHAM
Budget Committee Meeting
January 10, 2024, 6:30 PM
New Durham Community Room, New Durham, NH 03855

PRESENT

Terry Jarvis, Budget Committee Chair
Ken Fanjoy, Budget Committee Vice Chair
Kelly Bisson, Copple Crown Village District Representative
David Bickford, Budget Committee Member
Ellen Phillips, Budget Committee Member
Ken Ross-Raymond, Budget Committee Member – via Zoom
David Swenson, Board of Selectmen Representative – via Zoom

ABSENT

Susan DeRoy, Budget Committee Member

ALSO PRESENT

Cecile Chase, Interim Town Administrator
Vickie Blackden, Finance Manager
Cathy Orlowicz, resident
Sherry Cullimore, resident

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jarvis called the meeting of the Budget Committee to order at 7:01 PM. Roll call was taken.

PUBLIC HEARING - Proposed FY 2024 Budget

Chair Jarvis stated the Board of Selectmen met today to review the budget and concurred with the Budget Committee's proposed Operational Budget. Chair Jarvis stated this public hearing will go through each account and the Committee will take public comment.

Chair Jarvis opened the public hearing at 7:05 PM.

Chair Jarvis noted the total Default Budget is \$4,033,440 while the proposed Operating Budget is \$4,047,921.

Account 4130 – Executive

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$246,040; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved 35,789 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$246,040.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. Mr. Bickford noted the Committee has already voted to approve numbers so unless there are changes, no vote is needed until the bottom line.

Account 4140 – Elections and Registrations

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023 the Budget Committee approved \$131,720; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved amount of \$149,574 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$131,720.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4150 – Financial Administration

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023 the Budget Committee approved \$188,525; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$188,535 for the FY 2024 budget. The default budget for FY 2024 is \$215,087.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. Ms. Orlowicz asked what the contributing factor is to the reduction of the proposed budget for this account. Chair Jarvis stated the Finance Administrator has been made a part time position which gives a savings in benefits and retirement costs.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. There was none.

Account 4152 – Assessing

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023 the Budget Committee approved \$91,553; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved for FY 2024 budget the amount of \$101,697 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$102,171.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4153 – Legal

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$20,000; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$30,000 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$20,000.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4155 – Personnel Administration

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$62,198; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$93,081 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$62,198.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4195 – Planning Board

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$9,233; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$8,532 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$9,233.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4192 – Zoning Board of Adjustment

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$6,592; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$6,375 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$6,592.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4194 – General Government Buildings

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$42,783; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved for FY 2024 budget in the amount of \$39,468 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$42,783.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4195 – Cemeteries

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$5,126; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved for FY 2024 budget in the amount of \$5,066; the 2024 default amount is \$5,126.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4196 - Insurance

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$70,726; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$77,000 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$79,000.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. Ms. Orlowicz asked why the default is higher than the proposed amount. Chair Jarvis stated the property and liability costs in 2023 was \$70,726 and there was an increase to the amount proposed by the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee, of \$77,000. Mr. Swenson stated the default amount should be \$77,000 but the \$79,000 reflects the addition of the deductible. Ms. Blackden noted the insurance bills for 2023 were entered incorrectly due to the billing cycle but she used the contract figures and bills for setting the default amount.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4199 -Other General Government

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$11,933; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$11,602 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$11,933.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4210 – Police Department

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$735,552; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$757,990 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$744,219.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4220 – Fire Department

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$349,312; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$352,096 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$349,312.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4240 – Building Inspector

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$107,399; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$99,563 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$107,399.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4299 – Emergency Management

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$8,699; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$5,508 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$8,699.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4291 -Forestry

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$16,629; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$15,511 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$16,629.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4312- Highway Department

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$1,099,080; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$1,140,641 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$1,152,288. She stated an email was received today from the Highway Department requesting to discontinue the uniform provider in exchange for a uniform stipend and to break the contract that goes to December 2024 for both the Highway and Solid Waste departments will cost \$18,000. The department requested a \$1,500 increase. Chair Jarvis stated she would like to find \$1,500 to cover the cost of new uniforms somewhere. The Committee agreed.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account – Solid Waste

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$415,759; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$412,218 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$415,759.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4411- Health Officer

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$3,559; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$3,584 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$3,559.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4415 – Other Agencies

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$7,500; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$7,000 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$7,000.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4411 - Welfare

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$20,870; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved for FY 2024 budget in the amount of \$22,246 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$20,870.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4520-Recreation

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$87,715; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$90,724 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$93,216.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4583 – Town Historian

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$732; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$630 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$732.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4589 - Cultural Recreation (Boodey Farmstead and 1772 Meetinghouse)

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$5,787; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$11,271 for FY 24; the 2024 default amount is \$5,787.

Mr. Bickford stated he doesn't believe the Boodey Farmstead should be included in this account and should be as a separate warrant article. Mr. Swenson noted this account is for operational costs, not capital reserves. Mr. Bickford noted the funds requested are indicated as being for the driveway so that should be CRF.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. Ms. Orlowicz clarified the fund request is for contracting with an architect.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members.

Account 4612- Conservation

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$1,477; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$1,477 for the FY 2024 budget; the 2024 default amount is \$1,477.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4711-Principal on Long Term Bonds

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$66,303; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$ 10,276 for the FY 2024 budget.

Mr. Swenson clarified the Board of Selectmen keep the account lines separate; he stated the primary reason for the reduction from 2023 to 2024 is because a bond was retired in 2023. The bond for the proposed budget amount will be retired in August of 2024.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account – Interest on Long Term Bonds and Notes

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$1,300; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$273 for the FY 2024 budget.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account – Lease Payments

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$1; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$1 for the FY 2024 budget.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4723– Interest on the TAN Chair Jarvis stated in 2023 the Budget Committee approved \$9,165; the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee approved the amount of \$2,000 for the FY2024 budget. It was noted the original approval from the Budget Committee in November 2023 was \$1 but the Town was required to take a Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) in December 2023. While the interest incurred in 2023 will be accounted in 2023 there remains interest payments in 2024 until the TAN is fully paid back. This would be part of the 2024 budget. Ms. Blackden explained the current TAN should be paid off this week.

The TAN principal (Account 4724) for FY24 budget remains at \$1 should a TAN be necessary in FY24.”

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

MOTION: *That Account 4723, Interest on the TAN, now be funded in the amount of \$2,000.* Motion by Chair Jarvis. Second by Mr. Bickford. **Discussion:** Mr. Swenson clarified the Board of Selectmen also approved the \$2,000 based on the information presented. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Bickford-aye; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-aye; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 7-0-0.**

Account – Principal on TAN

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$1; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved for FY 2024 budget in the amount of \$1.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4550-Library

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$152,135; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$168,470 for the FY 2024 budget. The default amount is \$164,335.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from Committee members. None was received.

Account 4901, 4903, 4904- Lands and Improvements, Capital Outlays, Improvements other than Buildings

Chair Jarvis stated in 2023, the Budget Committee approved \$400,000; the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee approved the amount of \$400,000 for the FY 2024 budget.

Mr. Swenson explained the breakdown of Warrant Article #5 and how the figures are calculated.

Chair Jarvis asked for input from the public. None was received.

Chair Jarvis input from Committee members. None was received.

The Board reviewed and discussed the warrant articles related to the operating budget.

MOTION: *To amend Article # 4 to \$4,047,923.* Motion by Mr. Fanjoy. Second by Ms. Phillips.
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Bickford-no; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-aye; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 6-1-0.**

Chair Jarvis stated due to review and recent activities, the anticipated revenue figures have been adjusted. She stated the Budget Committee originally approved \$1,115,055; the revised revenue figure is \$1,216,055.0. Ms. Blackden explained the warrant articles which will offset a portion of the revenues.

MOTION: *To recommend what is currently listed as Warrant Article #4: Shall the Town raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by the vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$4,047,923. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$4,033,440, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may hold a special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Majority Vote Required.*
[Note: Operating Budget & Default Budget includes the Library Budget.
Estimated Tax Rate Impact – 2024 Proposed Budget: \$ 6.634 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.
Estimated Tax Rate Impact – 2024 Default Budget: \$ 6.440 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Motion by Mr. Fanjoy. Second by Ms. Bisson. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Bickford-no; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-aye; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 6-1-0.**

MOTION: *To recommend what is currently listed as Warrant Article 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$400,000 for the purposes of a Road Program with \$114,000 to come from Highway Block Grant Aid and the remaining \$286,000 to come from general taxation.*
Majority Vote Required.
Estimated 2024 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.487 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Motion by Mr. Bickford. Second by Mr. Fanjoy. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Bickford-aye; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-aye; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 7-0-0.**

MOTION: *To recommend what is currently listed as Warrant Article 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$305,000 to be placed in previously established Public Works related Capital Reserve Funds as follows with said funds to come from taxation:*

<i>Account</i>	<i>Created</i>	<i>2024</i>
<i>Highway Trucks</i>	<i>March 4, 1988, Article #9</i>	<i>\$180,000</i>
<i>Vehicle & Equipment</i>		
<i>Maintenance</i>	<i>March 10, 2010, Article #15</i>	<i>\$20,000</i>
<i>Road Reconstruction</i>	<i>March 10, 2010, Article #5</i>	<i>\$100,000</i>
<i>Gravel</i>	<i>March 13, 2012, Article #12</i>	<i>\$5,000</i>
	<i>Purpose change March 10, 2020</i>	
	<i>Article #12</i>	
		<i>Total \$305,000</i>

Majority Vote Required

Estimated 2024 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.492 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Motion by Mr. Fanjoy. Second by Ms. Phillips. **Discussion:** Mr. Bickford stated in 2019 the Town voted to have Expendable Trust Fund and Capital Reserve Fund items be voted on individually on the Town Warrant. He stated these are not supposed to be grouped together. Chair Jarvis stated some warrant articles are mandatory and some are advisory; the article he is referencing is advisory; the decision to separate items is up to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Swenson stated the Board discussed the issue extensively; they recognized that the 2019 vote was taken but in 2023 there were extensive warrant articles which cause increased costs. Mr. Ross-Raymond asked why it wasn't put to the voters again this year. Mr. Swenson explained the article in 2019 was put forward by the Board of Selectmen; it could have been brought forward as a petition warrant article. Mr. Bickford stated he believes the public should have the same opportunity to vote on items separately, the same as the Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen. Chair Jarvis suggested this is an issue that needs to be addressed further with the Board of Selectmen.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Bickford-no; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-no; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 5-2-0.**

MOTION: *To recommend what is currently listed as Warrant Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$120,000 to be placed in previously established Municipal Facility Land related **Capital Reserve Funds** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:*

<i>Account</i>	<i>Created</i>	<i>2024</i>
<i>Municipal Facility Land</i>		
<i>Acquisition</i>	<i>March 13, 2007, Article #8</i>	<i>\$120,000</i>
		<i>Total \$120,000</i>

Majority Vote Required

Estimated 2024 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.184 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Motion by Mr. Bickford. Second by Mr. Fanjoy. **Discussion:** Ms. Orlowicz asked what the purpose is for this fund. Chair Jarvis stated there are various uses it could be used for such as purchasing land for a fire station, land purchase for a safety complex, or additional land for

Town Hall. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Bickford-aye; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-aye; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 7-0-0.**

MOTION: *To recommend what is currently listed as Warrant Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be placed in previously established Public Safety related **Capital Reserve Funds** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:*

Account	Created	2024
Police Cruisers	March 15, 2000, Article #7	\$15,000
Fire Vehicles	March 12, 2003, Article #11	\$20,000
Fire Department Ancillary		
Equipment Non-Vehicle	March 10, 2015, Article #5	\$15,000
		Total \$50,000

Majority Vote Required

Estimated 2024 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.081 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Motion by Ms. Phillips. Second by Ms. Bisson. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Bickford-no; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-aye; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 6-1-0.**

MOTION: *To recommend what is currently listed as Warrant Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to be placed in previously established New Durham Water Quality & Milfoil related **Capital Reserve Funds** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:*

Account	Created	2024
Milfoil Treatment		\$15,000
		March 11, 2009, Article #6
		Amended for Purpose Change
		March 12, 2019, Article #11
		Total \$15,000

Majority Vote Required

Estimated 2024 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.024 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Motion by Ms. Phillips. Second by Mr. Fanjoy. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Bickford-aye; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-aye; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 7-0-0.**

MOTION: *To recommend what is currently listed as Warrant Article 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$44,000 to be placed in previously established Facilities related **Capital Reserve Funds** as follows with said funds to come from taxation:*

Account	Created	2024
Smith Ballfield Improvements	March 11, 2008, Article #9	\$5,000
Public Safety Facilities	March 10, 2010, Article #17	\$35,000
Library Facilities		
Improvement	March 13, 2007, Article #7	\$4,000
		Total \$44,000

Majority Vote Required

Estimated 2024 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.071 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Motion by Chair Jarvis. Second by Ms. Phillips. **Discussion:** Ms. Bisson stated these items don't seem related and suggested they be separated. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Bickford-no; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-no; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 5-2-0.**

MOTION: *To recommend what is currently listed as Warrant Article 11: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$20,000, to be added to the 1772 Meetinghouse Capital Reserve Fund, previously established, for urgently needed structural repair. Further, to direct the New Durham Board of Selectmen to work with the 1772 Meetinghouse Restoration Committee to find qualified restoration contractors and complete this work as soon as possible."*

Account	Created	2024
1772 Meetinghouse	March 15, 2000, Article #14	\$20,000
		Total \$20,000

(Majority vote required)

Estimated 2024 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.032 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Motion by Ms. Phillips. Second by Mr. Fanjoy. **Discussion:** Ms. Orlowicz asked if "Further, to direct the New Durham Board of Selectmen to work with the 1772 Meetinghouse Restoration Committee to find qualified restoration contractors and complete this work as soon as possible." can be deleted. Mr. Swenson stated the 1772 Meetinghouse Restoration Committee is working to obtain a grant and this wording was developed to indicate the Town is supportive of the grant award. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Bickford-aye; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-aye; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 7-0-0.**

MOTION: *To recommend what is currently listed as Warrant Article 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$140,000 to be placed in previously established Expendable Trust Funds as follows with said funds to come from taxation:*

Account	Created	2024
Computer Systems & Office Equipment	March 13, 1996, Article #11	\$50,000
	Revised March 9, 2011 Article #26	
Records Management Fund	March 23, 1999, Article #23	\$15,000
Town Buildings & Improvements Fund	March 15, 2000, Article #15	\$75,000
Total		\$140,000

Majority Vote Required

Estimated 2024 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.226 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Motion by Mr. Fanjoy. Second by Ms. Bisson. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Bickford-no; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-no; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 5-2-0.**

MOTION: *To recommend what is currently listed as Warrant Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 to be placed in previously established Expendable Trust Funds as follows with said funds to come from taxation:*

Account	Created	2024
Accrued Benefit Liability	March 1992, Article #16	\$15,000
Fund		
New Durham Dam	March 13, 2018, Article #13	\$5,000
Maintenance		
Total		\$20,000
Majority Vote Required		

Estimated 2024 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.032 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Motion by Mr. Fanjoy. Second by Ms. Bisson. Discussion: Ms. Bisson asked the reasoning for combining these two items. Mr. Swenson stated this was the last two articles to be grouped. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Bickford-no; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-no; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 5-2-0.**

MOTION: *To recommend what is currently listed as Warrant Article 14: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate the sum of \$7,000 for the purposes of funding contributions to Health & Other Agencies i.e. Cornerstone VNA, CAP of Strafford County, Kingswood Youth Center, and Strafford Nutrition – Meals on Wheels with this sum to come from authorizing the withdrawal of \$7,000 from the JC Shirley Timber Trust (Trust Fund #28). Said trust established for the purpose to “benefit of the Town of New Durham for such lawful purposes as the Town may direct at its annual meeting.”*

Majority Vote Required

Estimated 2024 Tax Rate Impact: \$ 0.00 per \$1,000 assessed valuation.

Motion by Ms. Bisson. Second by Mr. Fanjoy. **Discussion:** Ms. Blackden stated these funds are already in the operating budget; she is going to check on the funding and it makes it appear there are two appropriations. Mr. Swenson stated the difference is the action is to “appropriate: and not “raise and appropriate”; it comes from a trust fund. Ms. Orlowicz noted that in the past it was worded to authorize the Board of Selectmen to expend the sum. Chair Jarvis noted the \$7,000 is contained within the operational budget approved earlier. Mr. Swenson suggested an amendment to the motion. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Bickford-aye; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-aye; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 7-0-0.**

The Board discussed whether what is currently listed as Warrant Article 15, requires a vote by the Budget Committee. Chair Jarvis noted Town Counsel advised last year that the Committee must vote on any appropriations and may vote on anything else. Mr. Swenson explained this article was created by the Board of Selectmen at the recommendation of the Trustees of the Trust Funds.

MOTION: *To recommend what is currently listed as Warrant Article 15: To see if the Town will vote to align the Municipal Facility Land Acquisition CRF established in March 13, 2007, Article #8 with other CRFs in the Town and to change the current default agents to expend being*

the Trustees of the Trust Fund to identify the agents to expend the Municipal Facility Land Acquisition as the Board of Selectmen.

Majority Vote Required

No tax impact.

Motion by Chair Jarvis Second by Mr. Fanjoy. **Discussion:** Chair Jarvis noted the Board of Selectmen can motion to make amendments to the wording chance at the Deliberative Session as long as it doesn't change the intent. Mr. Swenson stated the warrant articles will also go for legal review prior to the Deliberative Session.

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Bickford-no; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-aye; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 6-1-0.**

FUTURE MEETINGS

February 6, 2024 – Deliberative Session, 7:00 PM, New Durham School
Fourth Quarter Review – To Be Determined.

Mr. Swenson stated the Board of Selectmen will be meeting the day following the Deliberative Session in case any changes are made to the warrant articles.

Mr. Ross-Raymond stated regarding the discussion about combining line items in warrant articles, he does not oppose the line items but he opposes the combining of items and if the voters have indicated by warrant article in the past to separate the items, he thinks they should listen to the public.

Chair Jarvis closed the public hearing at 9:00 PM.

Other

Mr. Bickford stated the last two meetings were called as “emergency” meetings and asked for clarification. Chair Jarvis stated one meeting was posted as such because she was given information that she believed needed immediate action by the Budget Committee; as she surveyed the members of the Committee, at that time it did not appear a physical quorum would be present, so she posted the meeting as an Emergency Meeting” per the RSA which allows the Committee to meet without a physical quorum. She explained that when the day came, they did end up having a physical quorum and the criteria was met for a regular meeting under the law. Mr. Bickford referred to the RSA and stated emergency means action is imperative but not having a quorum does not create an emergency. Chair Jarvis clarified the emergency was created by what the request was and she was unsure if a quorum would be present; she stated she referenced RSA 91-A:2 III(b) at the time to make a decision.

MOTION: *To adjourn.* Motion by Mr. Swenson. Second by Mr. Fanjoy. **Roll Call Vote:** Mr. Bickford-aye; Ms. Phillips-aye; Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-aye; Mr. Swenson-aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. **Motion passed 7-0-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Town of New Durham Board Budget Committee
Approved March 21, 2024

Jennifer Riel

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary