

TOWN OF NEW DURHAM
Board of Selectmen
October 11, 2023, 8:00 A.M.
New Durham Community Room, New Durham, NH 03855

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PRESENT

David Swenson, Select Board Chair
Dorothy Veisel, Vice Chair Select Board
Marc DeCoff, Select Board Member

ALSO PRESENT

Cecile Chase, Interim Town Administrator
Shawn Bernier, Police Chief
Scott Drummey, Resident
Cathy Orlowicz, Town Historian
Rudy Rosiello, Resident
Ellen Phillips, 1772 Meetinghouse Committee

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Swenson called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

Budget Review

The Board reviewed the Bond Schedule. It was noted that the final one will be paid off in 2024.

Account 4583 – Town Historian

Ms. Orlowicz explained the details of the budget request; she stated the request for patriotic supplies is for purchasing flags. She stated she needs to purchase organizing materials such as shelving and binders for genealogical records. She stated the archival costs are for items being stored in the vault.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2024 Budget for Account 4583 Town Historian in the amount of \$630. Motion by Chair Swenson. Second by Selectman DeCoff. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Account 4589 – Boodey Farmstead Portion

The Board reviewed the proposed budget. Ms. Orlowicz explained the projects being planned for next year.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2024 Budget for Account 4589, Boodey Farmstead portion, in the amount of \$7,000. Motion by Chair Swenson. Second by Selectman DeCoff. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Account 4199 – Water Quality

The Board reviewed the proposed budget. Representatives from the New Durham Water Quality Committee gave an overview of what the committee does which is mainly water quality testing. It was noted there are 6 swimmable ponds in New Durham which are monitored on a monthly basis from May to September. The tests are done through UNH and the costs are going to be increasing from \$12 to \$14 per test. There was an additional request for fuel and mileage reimbursements to the committee volunteers who conduct the testing. The Board agreed to postpone approving the budget so more research can be done on funding options as the FY24 budget request includes a significant increase for a proposed study (>\$8,000).

Account 4140 – Elections and Registrations

The Board reviewed the proposed budget. It was noted there are additional elections which are reflected in the increase in the budget. With the new voting machines there is a set fee so the number of elections will not change those costs.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2024 Budget for Account 4140 Election and Registration in the amount of \$149,331. Motion by Selectman Veisel. Second by Selectman DeCoff. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Account 4199 – Milfoil

The Board reviewed the proposed budget.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2024 Budget for Account 4199 Water Quality in the amount of \$25,433 for the items outlined at the meeting with the understanding that \$5,000 for Shaws Pond engineering work will come from the ARPA funds. Motion by Vice Chair Veisel. Second by Selectman DeCoff. Motion passed 3-0-0.

There was discussion about the process for treating the milfoil in the local waterbodies.

Tax / Assessing Software

The Board discussed changes to the tax assessing software.

Accounts 4711, 4721, 4722, 4723 – Long Term Bonds / Notes / Interest / Lease / TAN

The Board reviewed the bond schedule; Chair Swenson noted the only remaining bond the Town has will be paid off in August 2024 with a total payoff of \$10,273.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2024 Budget for Account 4711 Principal on Long Term Bonds in the amount of \$10,000. Motion by Chair Swenson. Second by Vice Chair Veisel. Motion passed 3-0-0.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2024 Budget for Account 4721 Interest on Long Term Bonds in the amount of \$273. Motion by Chair Swenson. Second by Vice Chair Veisel. Motion passed 3-0-0.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2024 Budget for Account 4722 Lease Payments in the amount of \$1. Motion by Chair Swenson. Second by Selectman DeCoff. Motion passed 3-0-0.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2024 Budget for Account 4723 Interest on TAN in the amount of \$1. Motion by Chair Swenson. Second by Vice Chair Veisel. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Account 4194 – General Gov’t Buildings

The Board discussed projected fuel and utility costs.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2024 Budget for Account 4194 in the amount of \$42,473. Motion by Chair Swenson. Second by Selectman DeCoff. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Account 4210 – Police Department

The Board reviewed the proposed budget. Chief Bernier gave an overview of the average number of traffic stops and calls for service. It was noted there would be a 10% increase in the rates for the services from Strafford County. There was discussion about heating costs but the annual amount of usage is unknown.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2024 Budget for Account 4210 Police Department in the amount of \$762,864. Motion by Chair Swenson. Second by Selectman Veisel. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Accounts 4589 – 1772 Meetinghouse Portion

The Board reviewed the proposed budget. Ms. Phillips explained the line items that were increased due to increased costs. She explained the need for port-o-potties due to the increase of people using the trails and property.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2024 Budget for Account 4589 Meetinghouse in the amount of \$4,071. Motion by Selectman DeCoff. Second by Vice Chair Veisel. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Accounts 4411 – Health Officer

The Board reviewed the proposed budget.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2024 Budget for Account 4411 in the amount of \$3,834. Motion by Selectman DeCoff. Second by Vice Chair Veisel. Motion passed 3-0-0.

Accounts 4612 – Conservation

The Board reviewed the proposed budget.

MOTION: To approve the FY 2024 Budget for Account 4612 in the amount of \$1,477. Motion by Chair Swenson. Second by Selectman DeCoff. Motion passed 3-0-0.

MOTION: To enter nonpublic session pursuant to RS 91:A-3II, (a) *The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted; (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on the inability to pay or poverty of the applicant; (l) Consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel, either in writing or orally, to one or more members of the public body, even where legal counsel is not present.* Motion by Chair Swenson. Second by Selectman Veisel. Roll Call Vote: Selectman Veisel - aye; Selectman DeCoff-aye; Chair Swenson-aye. Motion passed 3-0-0.

The Board entered non-public session at 10:17 a.m.

The Board reentered public session at 10:52 a.m.

MOTION: To seal the minutes of the non-public session of the October 11, 2023 meeting for reasons it may adversely affect the reputation of one other than the Board. Motion by Chair Swenson. Second by Selectman DeCoff. Motion passed 3-0-0.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting. Motion by Chair Swenson. Second by Vice Chair Veisel. Motion passed 3-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Riel

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary