

TOWN OF NEW DURHAM
Budget Committee Meeting
January 3, 2024, 4:00 PM
New Durham Town Hall, New Durham, NH 03855

PRESENT

Terry Jarvis, Budget Committee Chair
Ken Fanjoy, Budget Committee Vice Chair
Kelly Bisson, Copple Crown Village District Representative
Ellen Phillips, Budget Committee Member
Ken Ross-Raymond, Budget Committee Member
Susan DeRoy, Budget Committee Member – via Zoom. Joined at approximately 4:10 PM.
David Swenson, Board of Selectmen Representative – via Zoom

Absent:

David Bickford – Excused

ALSO PRESENT

Cecile Chase, Interim Town Administrator
Marc DeCoff, resident
Shawn Bernier, Chief of Police
Rudy Rosiello, resident – via Zoom
Michael Bean, MA Bean Associates

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jarvis called the meeting of the Budget Committee to order at 4:01 PM. Roll call was taken. She stated this meeting has been called as an emergency meeting because when the meeting was scheduled, it was unclear whether a quorum of members would be able to be physically present; however, five members are physically present. So, it is a regular meeting.

Middleton Road Culvert Repair/Replacement

Chair Jarvis stated due to recent storm events and rain, the culvert has been washed away; she stated there was a warrant article on the draft warrant for this culvert to be replaced. She stated the Board of Selectmen have assessed the situation; the road is of critical importance to the Fire Department, Police Department and EMS to access the part of Town off of Kings Highway. It is also used by school busses and has a serious impact on the Town. Chair Jarvis stated RSA 32:11 speaks to emergency expenditures and overexpenditures; she explained the Budget Committee must review and approve such expenditures. The Board of Selectmen approved a bid from MA Bean on December 21, 2023 in the amount of \$325,000 to replace the culvert.

Mr. Swenson explained the funding proposal which includes funds from a Highway Block grant, a municipal bridge grant, ARPA funds and a balance of \$165,000 to come from the Unassigned Fund Balance. Mr. Swenson stated two members of the Board of Selectmen, the Department of Public Works and emergency personnel viewed the site and assessed the situation; the motion of

December 26 by the Board of Selectmen was unanimous to declare the incident an emergency with historic damage.

Ms. DeRoy joined the meeting.

Mr. Swenson explained the proposed design which will include the construction of a bridge to span the culvert.

Police Chief Bernier confirmed the damage greatly affects the Police Department and doubles the response time to those areas by the emergency departments.

Mr. Swenson explained the funding sources were reviewed with the Trustee of the Trust funds and the Town Administrator to ensure compliance with RSA. He stated the Board of Selectmen also revisited the draft of the warrant articles with the Trustee of the Trust funds and edits were made, including the removal of the Middleton Road culvert repair article.

Chair Jarvis asked the current balance of the Unassigned Fund Balance. Interim Town Administrator Chase stated after tax setting, the balance is \$1,615,701.

Mr. Bean gave an update on the progress of the work including the creation of the bridge.

MOTION: To approve the withdrawal of \$165,084 to be taken from the Unassigned Fund Balance. Motion by Mr. Ross-Raymond. Second by Ms. Bisson. Roll Call Vote: Mr. Fanjoy-aye; Ms. Bisson-aye; Mr. Ross-Raymond-aye; Mr. Swenson-aye; Ms. Phillips – aye; Ms. DeRoy- aye; Chair Jarvis-aye. Motion passed 7-0-0.

Interim Town Administrator Chase distributed a form which must be submitted to the New Hampshire Department of Revenue with a signature from the Committee.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennifer Riel

Jennifer Riel, Recording Secretary