



Office of Board of Selectmen Town of Mason

16 Darling Hill Road – Mann House
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Selectmen Preliminary Budget Meeting 10/6/2020
Unapproved Minutes

Present: By roll call, using the Zoom platform – Charles Moser, Louise Lavoie, Pete McGinnity selectmen; Kathy Wile, AA; Brenda Wiley, bookkeeper; Jeannine Phalon, member of the public

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order 7:45 PM by Chair Louise Lavoie after reading the Right to Know checklist. She then proceeded to take attendance by roll call, reflected above.

New Business:

- Louise reviewed that the Fire Department Budget had been reviewed with the Fire Chief at a previous meeting.
- **Elections** – proposed numbers based on number of elections for 2021. Numbers looked right based on that information, to be approved by moderator as well.
- **Registrations and Vital Statistics** – Brenda said Deb says that will stay the same until further notice (updates in rates from Avitar usually come in early November).
- **Financial Administration** – nearly flat; proposed to further cut advertising budget \$250 as much is done on the website instead of the newspaper and will result in a flat budget.
- **Assessing** – a revaluation year, that amount is a separate contract for \$30,500 (same as 2016 with a cost of living increase only). Annual contract for other database maintenance, pickups, sales, etc is at hourly rates depending on the work. Again, a COLA increase over the current contract. Will take this up further next time.
- **ZBA** – request is down \$600 for clerk costs, due to meeting on an as needed basis, not every month.
- **Government Buildings** – cut proposed but from where? Need to add a vehicle maintenance line to this budget. Selectmen would like to speak with Wally regarding this budget.
- **Cemeteries** – flat
- **Building Inspector** – he proposed to cut salary line as he does not fully charge the town for his time. Selectmen decided to keep his wages line as is, in case the number of permit applications ramps up.
- **Communications** – no input from Hollis yet, usually comes in November.
- **Highway Department** – agreed it would be best to go over this with Dave present, at a separate meeting.
- **Parks and Recreation** – asking for \$200 increase – will discuss with Wally when they meet about buildings budget.
- **Town Common** – no change requested.

- **Library** – down overall, staffing changes seem the biggest part of that.
- **Mason Energy Commission** – requested no change to 2020 funding.
- **Planning Board** – nothing submitted as yet
- **Ambulance** – proposed contract shows a decrease of approximately \$6000, based on number of calls in part. To be finalized.
- **Conservation Commission** – no details, but request to keep the numbers the same as in 2020. Same for **Tax Maps**.
- **Police Department** – Brenda did note there will be a change (increase) in rate we pay into NHRS for retirement. Clarified that no retirement is paid on detail earnings.

Non-Public: Motion to enter non-public session made by Charlie, second from Pete, by reason of RSA 91-A:3, II (a) and RSA 91-A:3, II(e). Roll call vote to enter non-public session – Pete-aye, Charlie-aye, Louise-aye.. Entered into non-public at 8:48 PM.

Returned to Public session at 9:06 PM. Pete motioned, second from Charlie, to seal the minutes. Roll call vote Pete-aye, Charlie-aye, Louise aye. Three votes to seal the minutes to protect the reputation of any person other than a member of the board.

Further Business: Charlie asked for agreement on advice given to the building inspector to refer 2 new permit inquiries to the Planning Board. Agreed it was sound advice.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Louise motioned to adjourn, second from Pete. Roll call vote to adjourn – 3 ayes. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM, zoom meeting forum closed by Louise.

Next regular meeting will be Tuesday October 13, 2020 via the Zoom platform, at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Wile
Administrative Assistant