TOWN OF NEW HAMPTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OFFICE
NEW HAMPTON, NH 03256

October 28, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Irvine, Mr. Denoncour, and Mr. Mertz were present.

OTHERS PRESENT: Finance Officer Ms. Duggan and Public Works Director Mr. Boucher.

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Irvine called the meeting of the Board to order at 5:00 p.m.

BUDGET WORK SESSION
Highway Dept

The board advised that the CIP subcommittee recommended the 2006 backhoe not be replaced until 2021 but noted there is no backup piece of equipment if this fails. There was discussion on the hours the backhoe has, its current value, costs to rent backhoe if this one fails, and the work it is anticipated to perform in 2020. Mr. Boucher advised he is equally concerned about the condition of the 2010 International and the need to replace it also.

Household Hazardous Waste costs were added to Solid Waste Contract Services.

The cost of roadside mowing was moved from Contract Services to Equipment Rental, to budget for the higher cost of hiring a contractor to mow if the department is unable to rent one and perform the work themselves.

Mr. Boucher said he looked into container purchase for storing cardboard: 9’ high containers ranging from $4,800-$5,900 allowing stacking of 3 bales high, but they sell very quickly. There was discussion on various ways to use containers for storage purposes. The board asked Mr. Boucher to investigate costs of trusses to create a roof over 2 containers side by side to be considered for a future budget.

Ms. Duggan said Fire Chief Drake revised his budget under Contract Services for LRMFA.

There was discussion on the various options for wage increases and the effect to the overall budget while retaining and attracting experienced personnel to serve the town. The board reviewed other budget items for possible reductions in order to increase wages. There was discussion to reduce the Highway operating budget by $50,000 for road construction. Relative to wages the board agreed to the 1.6% COLA increase for employees, with the exception of some PD personnel who obtained, or will obtain, increases based on their contract, conditional offers, or completed certification. The board also agreed to the additional increases proposed by Chief Drake for his personnel based on certifications obtained. There was further discussion on the Town Clerk/Tax Collector’s request for an increase and her desire to obtain further certification. The board agreed to speak with her about the certifications on 10/31.

Ms. Duggan clarified that the backhoe and cruiser were not included in the spreadsheet and the board asked her to add them for their next meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS There was none.

PUBLIC There was none.
COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Denoncour made a motion, seconded by Mr. Mertz, to adjourn at 7:30 pm. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Vose