

2024-4-8 Finance Committee Minutes

Meeting started at 5:04 In attendance were Bob Baker, Roberta Wooldridge, Susi Westwood, Judy Cole Selectboard Liaison. David Honneus was absent. Jeanne Sergeant was a guest.

Minutes of 4-1 were approved unanimously.

At tomorrow's night's select board meeting the board will appoint a member to be a member of the finance committee. Then Brian Hawthorne will appoint that person.

Bob and Roberta met with the highway department as they had adjusted their budget up by 7.9%. We plan to adjust 2.5%. There is no highway boss as Walter has retired. Discussion ensued.

We have hired a new treasurer. He started last Wed. He will work for the wage of previous treasurer til July 1 and then wants \$20K. He has saved other towns he works for lots of money.

Discussion about the Building Committees's budget. It will be checked.

COLA amounts from other towns were varied. Hearing the range it was suggested we use 3.25%. A motion was made and seconded to use this number. Approved unanimously.

More discussion about the Highway budget. It was suggested that we level fund and let the new boss work with it.

Discussion of stipends. Bob would like the select board to have a moratorium on adding any. We need to have a policy.

Bob asked that we all look at the budget that Paula sent and get back to him before Wed morning before he meets with Paula.

It was suggested that we take \$8000 from the fired dept set aside for a new truck and designate it for a police cruiser. Talk to Alford about this. Discussion.

Judy talked about a new coalition to work on rural community stability. They have written a letter to go to the ways and means chair at the state. Judy asked that we as a committee sign on. Some were not comfortable doing so without reading and considering.

Meeting adjourned at 6:12
Submitted by susi westwood