

Office of Board of Selectmen

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Selectmen's Meeting

Monday, February 7, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Tioga Meeting Room, Belmont Mill

Vice Chairman Jon Pike called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Also present were Selectman Claude Patten, TA Jeanne Beaudin, Fire Chief Mike Newhall, DPW Director Craig Clairmont, Kevin Sturgeon and Sharon Ciampi. Chairman Mooney was absent.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Selectman Claude Patten moved the minutes of the meeting held on January 24, 2022 as written; seconded by Selectman Jon Pike. The motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Jon Pike moved the minutes of the meeting held on February 1, 2022 as written; seconded by Selectman Claude Patten. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing RSA 31:95-b

Vice Chairman Jon Pike opened the Public Hearing at 10:00 a.m. in accordance with RSA 31:95-b to accept a grant in the amount of \$46,290 from the NH Department of Justice ARPA fund allocation. TA Beaudin explained that the grant was applied for by the Police Department for the purpose of purchasing 10 individual ruggedized laptops assigned to patrol officers under the clean work station grant program funded through ARPA. The Town of Belmont is a subrecipient of this grant. Selectman Pike asked if there was any public comment; there being none, the public hearing was closed at 10:10 a.m.

Selectman Claude Patten moved to accept the grant in the amount of \$46,290; Seconded by Selectman Jon Pike. The motion passed unanimously.

Deliberative Session Follow-Up

Discussion followed regarding the Deliberative Session; Selectman Pike commented that it might have been better to have discussed Article 13 prior to the discussion on the Petition Articles so that more voters would have been present to offer comment on the proposed addition of \$150,000 to the budget for Parks & Recreation. TA Beaudin advised the Board that she had reached out to SAU80 for confirmation that the school would be available for use for a summer program; she also noted that she was writing to Lisa Ober to inquire about what was included in the dollar amount they proposed. TA Beaudin also explained that the Board of Selectmen would be in control of the expenditures related to the department were the budget to pass; it was noted that it may be difficult to find the staffing necessary so soon after Town Meeting to put a program in place by June. Kevin Sturgeon asked if today's meeting would be available online for the group to watch and TA Beaudin confirmed it would be up on LRPA.

Discussion followed regarding the other amendments to the Warrant that were discussed at the meeting on Saturday and TA Beaudin noted she was working with Town Clerk DeRoy to prepare the ballot for printing; TC DeRoy has indicated she will be ordering about 1,200 ballots. Selectman Patten inquired of Chief Newhall what the process was for the boat (s), Chief explained that the budget as presented would include two boats. TA Beaudin noted that there was an (s) left off in the article but it can be explained in the Voter's Guide.

Old Business

TA Beaudin reviewed the proposal for LED Street Lighting from Affinity explaining that the two price proposals were as follows; one was just straight forward for the lighting conversion, the other included a "smart" option which would allow adjustments at the local level in lieu of our electric service provider. TA Beaudin explained that the program can be financed through a municipal lease program which could be paid for through the Street Lighting Operating Budget. The cost of the two options were discussed and the Board and DPW Director Clairmont agreed that the "smart" option would be the best option. TA Beaudin noted that she had also spoken with the Town of Bristol who will be undertaking a similar project.

Selectman Claude Patten moved that the Town proceed with the proposal for the "smart" option conversion to LED lighting through Affinity LED Lighting; Selectman Jon Pike seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

Sharon Ciampi inquired under public comment as to who the Town's legal counsel was; TA Beaudin responded Mitchell Municipal Group, also she asked about non-public sessions to which TA Beaudin referred her to RSA 91-A for details.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Ruth P. Mooney, Chairman

Jon/P*y*ke, Vice-Chairman

Claude B. Patten, Jr., Selectman