

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 5, 2021 6:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting on Zoom
Meeting ID 885 7941 8041 Password 099301

Chairman Ronald Mitchell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and confirmed the following were in attendance via Zoom or by telephone; Norma Patten, Ronald Coffin, Mark Roberts, Justin Borden, Tina Fleming, Tracey LeClair, Robert Chapman, Mark Ekberg, Ken Ellis, Selectman Representative Ruth Mooney, TA Jeanne Beaudin, and ATA Alicia Jipson. Absent were Gary Grant and Albert Akerstrom.

On behalf of the Committee TA Beaudin made the following announcement regarding the format of the meeting; we are utilizing the Zoom platform for this electronic meeting. All members of the Committee have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through the Zoom platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone # 1-929-205-6099, Meeting ID #885 7941 8041, Password 099301 or by visiting www.belmontnh.org.

Meeting Minutes

Norma Patten moved to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2020 meeting; seconded by Mark Ekberg. Chairman Mitchell called the vote and motion was approved unanimously.

TA Beaudin commented that this past year the DRA had allowed the BOS to review their current expenditures and make necessary adjustments. DRA had changed the default by the amount of the reductions when they had assured us that they would not. Per council's recommendation we referenced on the last page of the MS 737 Emergency Order 56 as a 1x reduction. The majority of the increases is the new bond payment for the PD and the wage increases for the union contracts for Police, Fire and DPW. As we stand now the operating budget is a little less than the default.

The board will sign the proposed default budget at an upcoming meeting, and we will upload to the web. We are planning on holding the Deliberative Session on Saturday January 30th at 10:00 in the gym at the High School as it will allow for more social distancing and allow for more people to attend. TA Beaudin added that Legislature is voting to allow SB2 communities to delay Town Meeting. Right now, we are hoping to do it as planned as normal unless something of significances changes in the future. TA Beaudin noted the School Budget's meetings are also planned for next week.

TA Beaudin discussed the anticipated revenues. For comparison purposes information included the 2019-year end, 2020 anticipated, 2020 revised, 2020 actuals, and 2021 proposed. The biggest increase in 2020 was the PD bond. We do anticipate that the Room and Meals Tax will decrease next year. Highway Block Grant is down about \$10,000 from last year. Motor vehicle revenue is up. Interest on taxes was down in 2020, as a result in us holding off on the 2019 Tax Liens until August this year, thus the interest was less than normal due to the Governor's orders but most likely that will increase in 2021. We estimate a total of revenue in the amount of \$4,175,209 to offset expenses.


TA Beaudin commented that there are four individual members whose positions are up for reelection; they are Mark Roberts, Justin David Borden, Robert Chapman, and Ken Ellis. The filing period

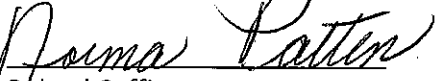
starts January 20th and ends January 29th. Cynthia anticipates everyone being able to come in and sign up at TH. During the Board of Selectmen's meeting tomorrow it is on the agenda to discuss where we stand on re-opening Town Hall.

The Board's next meeting is January 12, 2021 at 6:30 pm in a Zoom format.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. by motion of Ken Ellis seconded by Mark Roberts.

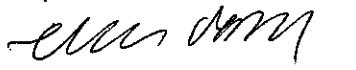

Chairman Ron Mitchell


Vice Chairman Albert Akerstrom



Roland Coffin

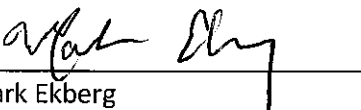

Norma Patten


Tracey LeClair

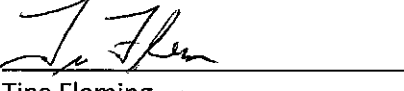

Justin David Borden

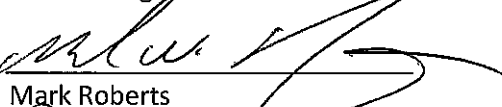
Robert Chapman


Ken Ellis


Mark Ekberg

Gary Grant


Tina Fleming


Mark Roberts


Selectman Ruth Mooney