

Budget Committee
February 14, 2024
7:00PM
Select Board conference room
In person and Zoom
Meeting and Public Hearing

Present for all or part of the meeting:

Budget Committee Members: Richard Jones, Vince Berk, Judy Brotman, Jennifer Boylston, James Graham, Richard Brown, Hayes Greenway, William Malcolm, Scott May and Brian Spence. Administrator: Dina Cutting.

Via zoom: Principle: John D'Entremont.

School Board members: Yolanda Bujarski, Jim Komarmi, Leigh Prince and Elizabeth Glenshaw.

Via zoom: Kristin Roth, and Jonathan Voegele.

Community members: Julia and Don Elder, Tim Cook, Sue MacKenzie, Michael Whitman

Via zoom: Betsy Uline, Sallie, Bridgette Cameron, Michael and Teresa Mundy, Kati Miller, Hebe Quinton, Margaret Johnston and 1 other unidentified.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Chair Jones.

1. Mr. Malcolm moved to approve the minutes of February 7th, 2024. Seconded by Mr. May. Some changes were made to the minutes. The motion was approved unanimously as amended.
2. Mrs. Brotman reviewed article #12.
3. At 7:10PM Chair Jones opened the public hearing on Warrant Article 12, Remove Material from Property.

Chair Jones asked for public comments. Clarification was made pertaining to what was being cleaned up and removed from these properties. The following topics were discussed:

- Does this involve cleaning out all buildings? Mrs. Brotman answered no.
 - Liens will be placed on this property for the amount of the cleanup unless the property owners can reimburse the Town for the total amount.
 - One property has back taxes still owed and one does not.
 - Questions were asked pertaining to these properties and if they have any mortgages. The answer was that this was unknown at this time.
 - It was noted that a community member appreciates how difficult this is for the Select Board to do and wants to thank the Board for these actions.
 - A question was raised as to whether there was any assurance this wouldn't happen again.
4. At 7:17 PM there were no further public comments and Chair Jones closed the public hearing.

- **Article # 12**-Ms. Brotman moved the Budget Committee recommend article 12. Seconded by Mr. Malcolm. The Budget Committee had a brief discussion concerning liens, mortgages, vehicles on this property and the sensitive nature of taking an action like this. This motion was voted 8 in favor with 1 abstention (Greenway) by a roll call vote.
 - MS-27: Ms. Brotman moved to approve and sign the school's MS-27. Seconded by Mr. May. Voted unanimously in favor. 9-0.
 - MS-737: Mr. Malcolm moved to approve and sign the Town MS-737. Seconded by Mr. Berk. Voted unanimously in favor. 9-0
5. The business being completed, Chair Jones opened the meeting for additional public comments.
- Ms. MacKenzie noted concern over the lack of funding to go into the Bridge Capital Reserve Fund. The Town has 14 other bridges.
 - Mr. Whitman noted at the last public hearing no Budget Committee member gave reasons as to why they voted against the School Bond. Chair Jones noted they did give reasons during the last hearing and they were not going to be asked to repeat them. Mr. Brown has recorded the past public hearing and meeting and anyone can watch them. He will post the links.
6. Chair Jones thanked all committee members for their time and dedication to the budget process.
7. There being no further business, at 7:39PM Mr. Berk moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Brown. Voted unanimously in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dina Cutting