

**Town of Auburn  
Budget Committee  
November 12, 2020  
Minutes**

**7:00 PM**

**Members Present:** Peter Miles, Chairman; Dan Carpenter, David Wesche, Kevin Downing, Janice Baker, and Keith Leclair

**Others Present:** Finance Director Adele Frisella

Chair Miles called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and introduced the Board members.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

November 5, 2020

***Mr. Leclair motioned to accept the November 5, 2020 meeting minutes. Mr. Downing seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

**Budget Presentations**

**Building Inspector – Carrie Rouleau-Cote**

Mrs. Rouleau-Cote reported the number of permits is up to 660, compared to 575 last year. There are a lot of home improvements, pools, decks, basements. There were 29 new homes compared to 24 last year. There is a potential 55+ subdivision that is going before the Planning Board. Sale prices have increased due to demand and the cost of building materials which has skyrocketed due to COVID-19. A couple of roads are up for Town approval. The online permitting software has inspections on track and she is being careful entering homes.

Mrs. Rouleau-Cote noted training and education hasn't been in person, but there are webinars from ICC and NH Building Officials. The Legislature generally had no activity over the summer. The Building Review Board is looking at updating the 2015 regulations to a 2018 version so books and online training will kick in.

Mrs. Rouleau-Cote presented the proposed FY 21 budget for Building Inspector in the amount of \$11,650.

Mr. Carpenter noted the Town has legal expenses in at least three spots and could combine them. Mrs. Rouleau-Cote noted Planning Board and ZBA may be overextended on theirs with a large legal case and she would like to know it is there. Mr. Leclair noted it is not a bad idea and also with the Building Inspector's budget as lean as it is, it would provide somewhere to dip into

as it is a bottom-line budget. Mr. Leclair will discuss the matter with the Town Administrator and the Board of Selectmen.

***Mr. Wesche motioned to approve the FY 21 Building Inspector budget in the amount of \$11,650. Mrs. Baker seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

#### **Animal Control Officer – Jarlene Cornett**

Ms. Cornett reported she is busy with everyone at home and there are a lot of calls for service.

Ms. Cornett presented the proposed FY 21 budget for Animal Control Officer in the amount of \$2,390 which is level funded from last year.

***Mr. Wesche motioned to approve the FY 21 Animal Control Officer budget in the amount of \$2,390. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

#### **Executive-Selectmen – Adele Frisella**

Ms. Frisella presented the proposed FY 21 budget for Executive Department in the amount of \$10,150 which is a five percent increase over last year. Ms. Frisella noted the budget for the Voter Guide has increased.

***Mr. Wesche motioned to approve the FY 21 Executive Department budget in the amount of \$10,150. Mr. Downing seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

#### **Insurance – Adele Frisella**

Ms. Frisella presented the proposed FY 21 budget for Insurance in the amount of \$128,261 which is a nine percent increase over last year. Ms. Frisella noted the Town had several large worker's compensation claims last year. Primex bases its premiums on prior use and wages.

***Mr. Carpenter motioned to approve the FY 21 Insurance budget in the amount of \$128,261. Mr. Wesche seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

#### **Other Public Safety – Adele Frisella**

Ms. Frisella presented the proposed FY 21 budget for Public Safety in the amount of \$500. Ms. Frisella noted these are for police details not covered by the department. Most planned events are absorbed into the police budget.

***Ms. Wesche motioned to approve the FY 21 Public Safety budget in the amount of \$500. Mr. Downing seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

## **Public Lighting – Adele Frisella**

Ms. Frisella presented the proposed FY 21 budget for Public Lighting (Street) in the amount of \$7,000 which is a 50% reduction from last year due to the scheduled installation of LED lighting fixtures this year. Mr. Leclair noted there was a rebate from Eversource that is covering about one-third of the total project cost, with the rest of the expense coming from the Town Property Rehabilitation Expendable Trust Fund created last year. There was no cost from taxation for the new fixtures.

***Mr. Downing motioned to approve the FY 21 budget for Public Lighting (Street) in the amount of \$7,000. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

**Next Meetings:**      Thursday, November 19, 2020 at 7 PM  
                             Tuesday, November 24, 2020 at 7 PM – School District  
                             Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 7 PM  
                             Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 7 PM  
                             Thursday, December 17, 2020 at 7 PM

## **Adjourn**

***Mr. Carpenter moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM, seconded by Mr. Wesche. A vote was taken; all were in agreement, the motion carried unanimously.***

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Hoijer,  
Recording Secretary