

Town of Oakham

Board of Selectmen

Work Meeting

Minutes of April 28, 2022

Present: Lucy Tessnau-Chairman, Don Haapakoski-Vice Chairman, Brad Taylor (via phone)

In attendance: Maribel LaRange-BOS admin asst, Paul Rochette

Meeting opened at 9: 35 AM by Chairman, Lucy Tessnau

Budget FY23: The board of selectmen met to discuss the budget for FY23 and to make sure things are moving along and on track. The board will then discuss with Fincom on their next regular meeting. The BOS discussed the principal assessor's, Priscilla Johnson's salary to consider giving her a raise and the BOA clerk. Brad stated that with the town accountant being out on medical leave they really don't have concrete numbers to know what the town has financially. Paul said they could put the money for line items but do not have to be distributed if needed. Lucy suggested possibly giving Priscilla a bonus if a raise cannot be done at the time. Don reminded the board that Priscilla does not work for the BOS and that the Board of Assessors should do the review and make a recommendation on pay increase.

Article for \$6,000 assessors' revaluation stabilization fund.

Remove line item for Wachusett Greenway and make article a donation.

The \$150,000 that got voted for the town hall upkeep went back to the stabilization account and now would need a revote on it with a 2/3 town's vote.

Police-

Article for \$11,000 vehicle stabilization account.

\$67,392 part-time wages, \$12,000 holiday wage total of \$79,392. Increase that to \$85,000.

Town Accountant- salary \$42,500, add \$20,000 to cover the interim accountant firm. Total of \$62,000.

COA will need a coordinator in the near future. Two days a week, 4 hours per day around \$10,000 yearly. Will have to budget for that in the future.

Paul thinks it's best if the part for the sweeper repair be put on an article.

Brad asked when are the bids for fuel, Don said in June?

The board would like a joint meeting with Springbrook, Lisa and Maribel in regards to the Treasurer/Collector conversion.

The board stated to take the money to repair town hall from Town Hall expenses and eliminate municipal building line item.

Paul said will have to budget the old software for the Treasurer/Collector until the conversion is complete and live. Will have to maintain both for the meantime.

On the next regular agenda, the board will have open warrants and will vote on date for the Annual Town Meeting.

Old Business: Papers to meet deadline for ARPA funds need to be signed.

New Business: Lucy suggested to the board to move public session from the bottom of the agenda to the top. Lucy wanted to get the other board member's opinion. Brad said that with public session being at the end of the agenda people would have to sit through a meeting and actually be aware of town business but that he was ok with trying it at the top of the agenda. Don was also ok with moving to the top.

June 27,2022 is being considered for the Annual Town Meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 11:47 PM: Lucy made motion to adjourn, Don 2nd, Brad all in favor.