

**Town of Greenville
Board of Selectmen**

Minutes – February 15, 2023

Call to order at 6:40 p.m. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 46 Main Street, Greenville. Present: Selectmen Douglas Reardon and Margaret Bickford, and Town Administrator Tara Sousa.

Old Business:

Warrant/ Budget Final

The Selectmen reviewed the warrant and budget handouts for the budget hearing. The Town Administrator reported that DRA's review had not identified any required language changes.

New Business:

Tax Impact Statement

The Selectmen reviewed the tax impact handout developed for the public hearing, which reported an estimated net change in the tax rate of +\$1.54. The Town Administrator noted that the town-wide revaluation would affect the actual amount.

Board of Selectmen's Report for 2022 Town Report

The Selectmen reviewed a draft of the Board of Selectmen Report for the 2022 Town Report. There were no changes or additions requested.

Keno Public Hearing

The Town Administrator notified the Board that review by Town Counsel of the petition article for Keno identified the statutory requirement to hold a public hearing. Due to the posting requirements and timeline, she recommended the hearing be scheduled for March 1, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. The Selectmen agreed.

Welfare Guidelines

The Selectmen reviewed changes to Appendix A of the Greenville Welfare Guidelines, detailing the allowable levels of assistance, as recommended by Welfare Director Carrie Traffie.

Motion by Selectwoman Bickford, 2nd by Selectman Reardon, to adopt the allowable levels of assistance payments in Appendix A of the Greenville Welfare Guidelines as presented.

Motion carried with 2 in favor, none opposed.

EMPG Grant – Emergency Operations Center Equipment

The Selectmen reviewed a grant agreement from NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management for equipment (furniture and a laptop), to outfit the Emergency Management area in Town Hall. Selectwoman Bickford questioned if the amount, \$6,411, was the full cost of the project, or the amount of the grant, which would require an equal match. Emergency Management Director Ed White answered that the \$6,411 was the total cost of the equipment to be ordered. Due to concerns that the grant might be incorrect, the Selectmen decided to table to get clarification from HSEM. The Town Administrator indicated she would contact the Program Coordinator.

Public Hearing – 2023 Budget & Warrant

Motion by Selectman Reardon, 2nd by Selectwoman Bickford, to open the Budget Public Hearing at 7:00 p.m.

Motion carried with 2 in favor, none opposed.

Selectman Reardon read section one of the warrant regarding voting day on Tuesday, March 14, 2023. The Selectmen reviewed Articles 1 through 4, and there were no questions.

Moving on to section 2 of the warrant regarding the business session of Town Meeting on Saturday, March 18, 2023. Those present in the audience confirmed they did not need the language of each article read in its entirety, so each warrant was announced by number, and questions/comments were requested.

Regarding articles 7 and 8, Marshall Buttrick, of 240 Adams Hill Road, inquired about the reduction of contract operations costs coupled with the addition of new line items, which resulted in increases in both budgets. The Town Administrator explained that last year, the Town's former water/wastewater contract operator had provided the 90 days-notice required by their contract that they would not be offering the Town a contract extension, so the Town direct-solicited companies which provide such services. The Town received 2 quotes, and accepted a labor-only contract from Whitewater, Inc. She discussed the challenge of budgeting costs that had previously been included in the contract. She noted that the anticipated rate increases were on the tax impact handout: \$3.00/1,000 for sewer and \$1.50/1,000 for water. Mr. Buttrick asked about the reduction in the water tower contract line-item, and the Town Administrator explained that the 2022 budget had been for inspection by divers of the 2 tanks, and that that was only required every 3 years.

Regarding articles 9 and 10, Mark Winslow, of 238 Adams Hill Road, asked why money had not been allocated to the New Fire Station Fund in many years. He discussed a brief history of the Fire Station Committee's work and the land that had been offered as a donation by the Lamarres, and that progress had stopped when the Town had shifted focus to wastewater issues. He expressed that the Town owed the Lamarres an answer regarding the land. He noted that the tax-deeded parcels (on Old Wilton Rd.) might provide an alternative location for a new station. Selectman Reardon indicated that the Board would revisit this issue.

David Winslow, of 21 Temple St., asked about the allocation for the Green Bridge. The Town Administrator answered that it is the same amount as prior years, and it is being saved for a future repair/replacement.

Regarding Article 14, Marshall Buttrick asked how the proposed highway expendable trust is different that the Highway Block Grant. The Town Administrator explained that the intent was to provide funds for additional highway projects when conditions allow them to be accomplished, without increasing the annual budget. Road Agent Scott Leard discussed examples of needed projects other than paving, such as culverts. Charles Buttrick asked about Highway Block Grant expenditures. The Town Administrator discussed that Highway Block Grant had built up for a couple years, which helped fund the substantial

amount of paving done in 2022. She discussed how the Block Grant is tracked on a spreadsheet, with the oldest funds being expended first.

Regarding Article 16, Mark Winslow expressed support for energy-efficiency projects, and inquired about the anticipated savings. The Town Administrator reported that the simple-payback on the project was 4.21 years, with estimated annual savings of \$7,100. Selectmen Reardon discussed the company, Affinity LED, which manufactures the fixtures in New Hampshire and focuses on employing veterans. Mr. Winslow asked if streetlights could be added through this project. The Town Administrator answered that there was a small buffer in the proposed amount to cover additional lights wanted or previously unaccounted for, and also for fixtures "on the shelf" for repairs.

For Article 17, Mark Winslow asked what types of physical and cyber security projects were planned. The Town Administrator discussed cameras and entry systems for Town Hall, cameras at the Highway Department to address material control and inappropriate dumping, and cameras at the pool. For IT work, she discussed transition to a cloud-based version of the current accounting software, and switching to a .gov domain for email and the Town's website.

Regarding Article 19, Mark Winslow asked if we had verification that the road was built to Town specifications. The Town Administrator discussed the involvement of Underwood Engineers as the Town's 3rd-party inspector who certified the construction, as well as a recent road surface management audit, which confirmed the current condition of the pavement.

The Town Administrator explained the need to readopt the veteran's credits, Article 20 and 21, due to the expansion of eligibility by the legislature, and the proposal to increase the credits from \$500 to \$750.

Regarding the petitioned article to allow Keno, it was announced that a separate public hearing, as required by the statute, would be held March 1, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

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The Selectmen:

- Reviewed, discussed, and approved check manifests for accounts payable and payroll.
- Reviewed, discussed, and approved Purchase Orders: Highway.

Motion by Selectman Reardon, 2nd by Selectwoman Bickford, to close the public hearing at 7:47 p.m.
Motion carried with 2 in favor, none opposed.

Motion by Selectman Reardon, 2nd by Selectwoman Bickford, to adjourn at 7:48 p.m.
Motion carried with 2 in favor, none opposed.

Submitted by: Tara Sousa/Town Administrator
Approved by:

Carla C. Mary/Chairperson



Douglas A. Reardon/Selectman

Margaret Bickford/Selectwoman