

**Dublin Budget Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2023**

Present: Nancy Campbell, Bill Gurney (Chairman), Judy Knapp, Susan Peters (Acting Selectmen's Representative), Sturdy Thomas (joined the meeting at 7:18), K Vanderbilt and Susie Vogel

Absent: Carole Monroe (Selectmen's Representative)

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Gurney.

Minutes from December 20, 2022, were moved by Susie and seconded by K. Minutes were approved as written 5-0-1 Abstain (S. Peters).

Review and voting on operating budget by departments:

Executive: Motion to approve the Executive budget at \$116,698 moved by Judy and seconded by K. Passed 5-0-1 Abstain (Nancy)

Election: Motion to approve the Election budget at \$5,247 moved by Susie and seconded by Judy. Passed 7-0.

Financial: Motion to approve the Financial budget at \$108,590 moved by Judy and seconded by Sturdy. Passed 7-0. To date the Selectmen have not approved the Budget Committee line.

Revaluation: Motion to approve the Revaluation budget at \$20,616 moved by Sturdy and seconded by Susie. Passed 7-0.

Legal: Motion to approve the Legal budget at \$23,500 moved by Judy and seconded by K. Passed 7-0.

Personnel Administration: Motion to approve the Personnel Administration budget at \$251,559 moved by Sturdy and seconded by Susie. Passed 7-0.

Planning: Motion to approve the Planning budget at \$7,979 moved by Susie and seconded by Sturdy. Passed 7-0.

General Government Buildings: Motion to approve the General Government Buildings budget at \$37,121 moved by Judy and seconded by K. Passed 7-0.

Cemeteries: Motion to approve the Cemeteries budget at \$25,124 moved by Judy and seconded by K. Passed 6-0-1 Abstain (Nancy).

Insurance: Motion to approve the Insurance budget at \$38,487 moved by Sturdy and seconded by K. Passed 7-0.

Regional Associations: Motion to approve the Regional Associations budget at \$3,310 moved by K and seconded by Susie. Passed 7-0.

Other Government: Motion to approve the Other Government budget at \$51,674 moved by Judy and seconded by K. Passed 7-0.

Police: Motion to approve the Police budget at \$427,201 moved by K and seconded by Sturdy. Passed 7-0.

Fire: Motion to approve the Fire budget at \$296,102 moved by Sturdy and seconded by Nancy. Passed 5-0-2 Abstain (K and Sturdy).

Building Inspection: Motion to approve the Building Inspection budget at \$21,597 moved by Sturdy and seconded by K. Passed 7-0.

Emergency Management: Motion to approve the Emergency Management budget at \$10,716 moved by Sturdy and seconded by Judy. Passed 6-0-1 Abstain (K).

Highway: Motion to approve the Highway budget at \$543,050 moved by Judy and seconded by Sturdy. Passed 7-0.

Street Lighting: Motion to approve the Street Lighting budget at \$17,340 moved by Sturdy and seconded by K. Passed 7-0.

Solid Waste: Nancy asked why actual Retirement line is overspent and why actual Electricity line is a negative number? She noted that there has been no diesel fuel allocated to Solid Waste. Judy moved and Sturdy seconded motion to table this budget awaiting further information on Retirement, Electricity and Diesel. Passed 7-0.

Health: Motion to approve the Health budget at \$96 moved by Nancy and seconded by Susie. Passed 7-0.

Welfare: Motion to approve the Welfare budget at \$9,699 moved by Nancy and seconded by Sturdy. Passed 7-0.

Recreation: Motion to approve the Recreation budget at \$3,035 moved by Susie and seconded by Nancy. Passed 7-0.

Summer Playground: Motion to approve the Summer Playground budget at \$21,814 moved by Judy and seconded by Nancy. Discussion of programs, staff, etc. Motion amended to table this budget pending further information. Passed 7-0.

Library: Motion to approve the Library budget at \$136,980 moved by Sturdy and seconded by Susie. The main difference between the department request and the Selectmen's budget is a decrease in Librarian & Assistants. Susie noted that based on the lower amount for Librarian & Assistants in the Selectmen's budget, the Social Security and Medicare lines should be different in the two budgets and they are the same. Motion

amended to table this budget pending clarification of Social Security and Medicare figures. Passed 7-0.

Patriotic: Motion to approve the Patriotic budget at \$1,685 moved by Judy and seconded by Sturdy. Passed 7-0.

Conservation Commission: Motion to approve the Conservation Commission budget at \$8,104 moved by Sturdy and seconded by Nancy. Sturdy questioned the cost of Invasive Spraying. Could there be a minimal charge to a private individual for spraying of their invasives? Transfer to Savings: why is it \$5,500? Sturdy moved and Judy seconded tabling this budget for further information. Passed 7-0

Review of Warrant Articles

Susan went over the revised table of proposed warrant articles. The warrant for the HVAC system at the Library has been revised to only reflect improvement in Air Quality and was reduced to \$13,500. The \$100,000 for Chip Sealing would be funded from Capital Reserve.

Susan explained the Community Power warrant article. The article authorizes the Town to opt into the Cheshire County Power Plan. It would allow us to join with the Cheshire County community power initiative instead of sourcing our own electric provider. She explained that there is a survey that can be completed by citizens regarding their feelings on this subject. A link is in the *Advocate*.

Nancy reminded us that we must make decisions for the Budget Hearing. The scheduled date is Tuesday, February 14th, with February 15th as the snow day. In order to prepare the public notice she must know where we will meet and if it will be just in person or also by Zoom. It was decided that it would be held on the third floor of the town hall and both in-person and by Zoom. Susan said that we could use the new OWL for Zoom. The notice should be in the newspaper by February 2nd.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 17: Continued review of budget and warrant articles.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A, Knapp, Co-Secretary