	APPROVED TOWN OF PELHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN–MEETING MINUTES August 16, 2022
CALL TO O	PRDER – Chairwoman Corbett called the meeting to order at approximately
PRESENT:	Jaie Bergeron, Heather Corbett, Kevin Cote, Jason Croteau, Charlene Takesian
ABSENT:	Interim Town Administrator Roark
PLEDGE O	F ALLEGIANCE
MEETING 1	MINUTES REVIEW
August 2, 202	22
MOTION:	(Croteau/Cote) To approve the August 2, 2022 meeting minutes as amended.
VOTE:	(5-0-0) The motion carried.
OPEN FOR	<u>UM</u>
No one came	forward in open forum.
2023 BOAR	D OF SELECTMEN BUDGET REVIEW
CIP	
the CIP Sub-	ruinn started off by explaining what a Capital Improvement Plan is. She stated that Committee consists of seven members. She then explained that they have drafted a ting all the 2023 Capital Improvement Plan projects and will explain the budget for
calculated by The Police D be starting in necessary for	tuinn stated that the Main Street sidewalk expansion starting year cost was the necessary cost to maintain the existing level and quality of community service epartment radio infrastructure cost totals \$511,588.00 before debt. The project will 2023. This project is listed as "urgent", which means it cannot be delayed and is health and safety. Another project for the Police Department is the remodel and the training room, which costs \$82,629.00. The starting year for this project is

2023. Lastly, Ms. Masse-Quinn stated that the Animal Control shelter cost is \$274,709.00, and the project start date is in 2024.

Ms. Masse-Quinn then explained the CIP projects for the Fire Department. To replace one of the department's ambulances it will cost \$300,000.00. The starting year for this project is in 2026.
They also will be replacing one of the fire engines, which is \$720,000.00, and the starting year for this project is also in 2026.

Ms. Masse-Quinn then stated that the cleaning of the clam shell truck for the Highway
Department will cost \$318,522.00. The starting year for this project is 2023. She also mentioned
that the culvert replacement cost is \$128,156.00, and the starting year for this project is 2023.
The last item for the Highway Department is purchasing a new dump truck, to replace the current
one from 2010. The cost for this project is \$274,400.00. The starting year for this project is in
2024.

Ms. Masse-Quinn stated that it would cost \$88,500.00 to replace the current trash compactor from 1999. This project would start in 2023. This is an urgent need. She also stated that it will cost \$185,000.00 for a new tractor for the Transfer Station. The starting year for this project is 2023. This is also an urgent need. Lastly, they would like to purchase a F-550 rack body dump with a plow and sander, which will cost \$110,000.00. The starting year for this project is 2023.

Ms. Masse-Quinn stated that the Parks and Recreation Department only has one project. The remodel of the restrooms at Raymond Athletic Fields will cost \$200,000.00. This project would start in 2024.

She also stated that the library only has one project as well. The renovations of the library will cost \$184,965.00. The starting year for this project is in 2023. She also noted that all these funds are already raised.

Ms. Masse-Quinn explained that the cemetery and the Senior Center did not submit any paperwork to the CIP sub-committee for review.

She stated that the Pelham School District had a few projects they sent in for review. First, the cost of phase two of the elementary school's air conditioning repair on the first floor is \$594,790.00. The starting year for this project is 2023. The next item is the elementary school's asphalt parking lot and roadways repairs. The cost for this is \$208,600.00, and the project would start in 2024. Phase three of the elementary school's air conditioning repair in the gym and remaining rooms will cost \$600,132.00. The starting year for this project is in 2025. Lastly, the high school parking lot replacement will cost \$295,830.00. The starting year for this project is in 2026.

Ms. Beauregard noted that the new animal shelter for the Police Department has been on the CIP for a while now, and that the department has decided to put \$10,000.00 in their budget to come up with an engineering plan. The Highway Department catch basin cleaning clam shell truck is a loan program. Also, the Highway Department is seeking a grant for the culvert replacement.

 Chairwoman Corbett asked for confirmation about whether staffing positions are in the CIP, or if it is just physical buildings or places. Ms. Beauregard explained that capital improvements usually do not include staffing positions but focus on things like infrastructure. Chairwoman Corbett also asked if the capital reserve fund for the Fire Department is raised through ambulance rides for other towns. Ms. Beauregard confirmed that it is and noted that this is where a lot of the funding comes from. She also explained that the CIP Sub-Committee is starting to look into more financing options for different departments.

Mr. Cote stated that the CIP Sub-Committee has also requested that departments send in information regarding the life of their current trucks, and how much longer they will last. This will help the sub-committee prepare for next year's CIP as well.

Mr. Bergeron asked if digitizing Town records, like the Planning Department's, could be part of the CIP eventually. Ms. Beauregard stated that most likely it would just have to be considered a normal budgetary item.

Ms. Masse-Quinn noted that currently the CIP only has three urgent projects. These are the police radio infrastructure project, the 1999 trash compactor replacement and the new tractor for 2023.

Planning Department

Ms. Beauregard explained that the Planning Department recently had a change in structure when she became the new director. There is a 2.5% cost of living increase in salaries, and other contractual increases. There was a small increase of \$358.00 in the supplies budget due to the rise in the cost of paper. The telephone budget is still being decided due to contract negotiations. She also noted that the Planning Department is going to be inheriting two vehicles from the Police Department. Because of this, and the costs rising, the gas and oil budget went from \$400.00 to \$800.00. The repairs budget also doubled from \$500.00 to \$1,000.00.

She also explained that the expense budget, including mileage reimbursement, increased by \$192.00. The environmental specialist position has developed greatly, causing the Planning Department to rely less on their contract with the EPA. Because of this, the contract is only \$20,500.00 for 2023. This is a decrease of \$34,500.00. Ms. Beauregard explained that the department has a number of outreach projects planned for the upcoming year. The costs for these projects are estimated in their budget. Overall, the Planning Department's 2023 budget has a decrease of \$104,680.00.

Ms. Beauregard stated that the Planning Department has one wish-list item. She explained that they are currently using the software iWork's, but that there are some issues with it. They have discussed adding online permitting and payments to the software. The first-year investment for the Civic Gov software would be \$33,500.00. The second-year cost would be \$21,000.00. The costs will also be lower if other departments switch to this software since it has unlimited users for the one price. She explained that even by implementing this new software, the overall budget for the Planning Department would decrease by about \$66,000.00.

Chairwoman Corbett noted that the City of Nashua uses this software, and she asked if anyone has reached out to them to see how the software is working for them. Ms. Beauregard explained that she has not yet, but she can. Chairwoman Corbett suggested that this would be a good idea, to get a better picture of how both the city employees and residents feel about the software. Ms. Takesian noted that this software seems like it would be a good step forward for the Town.

The Library

Ms. Green explained that the 2022 operating budget for the library was \$584,374.00. The 2023 requested budget is \$566,655.00. She explained that there are contractual increases in the budget for salaries. The budget for program supplies increased by \$500.00 due to rising costs of materials. The library is currently in the process of putting sound panels in the stairwell and children's rooms and finishing the ceiling in certain areas. The library has been struggling to find reasonable contractors to finish the work they had scheduled to be done in 2021. Because of this, they are currently encumbering the money budgeted for these projects. They are currently in contact with a few contractors and architects to get updated prices. Ms. Green noted because they are only requesting \$30,000.00 for this project, they are not eligible to be a part of the CIP.

There is an increase of \$2,025.00 in the tech and supplies budget. The library would like to find a new computer vendor due to rising costs and dissatisfaction with their service. They have come up with a seven-year plan to replace the computers, which includes starting to use refurbished Town computers. It is estimated to cost \$2,000.00 per year for internet access, security software and the solid-state drives. The Town computers currently have a turnover rate of four to five years. Every four to five years there will be an additional cost of \$4,500.00 when the turnover occurs. Ms. Green explained that overall, this will save \$10,000.00 in comparison to staying with their current vendor.

Ms. Green stated that there is a \$300.00 increase in the Summer Reading Program to help sustain the adult reading program. There is a requested \$1,200.00 increase for library staff professional development to help cover materials. She also stated that the costs of databases and eBooks are rising as well.

Mr. Croteau asked if Ms. Green could provide the Board with the construction plans, and they could assist in finding a contractor. Ms. Green explained that she will provide the plans to the Board.

The Library's 2022 operating budget was \$584,374.00. The 2023 default budget Is \$594,482.00. There is an increase of \$10,108.00. The 2023 requested budget is \$566,655.00.

Transfer Station

Ms. Martin started by explaining that the salaries budget did decrease because they lost a senior supervisor, and the new hire is only at step 1. The supplies budget for safety equipment increased

due to costs rising. The cellphone budget is contractual. The gas and oil budgets are an estimate based on last year's usage and costs rising. The repair budget increased since they have not done repairs in a while, and one of the recycling trailers needs a lot of work. The rental budget entails a trailer that used to be rented, but they now own. Mr. Long explained that the trailer needs a new roof due to rust. They are hoping to repair this by 2024. Ms. Martin stated the equipment budget decreased due to the station receiving a grant for the can separator they purchased.

Ms. Martin explained that the expenses budget increased due to the tonnage increasing for the trash and single stream recycling. She also explained that their current provider, Republic Services, only charges around \$191.00 for a haul, but they will be using a new provider soon who has higher rates. Mr. Long stated they have been using Republic Services for nine years and had a good contract with them, but they are no longer going to be able to use them for hauling.

 Ms. Martin stated that the Transfer Station does have a wish-list item. They would like to replace their 2001 pick-up truck. They would also like to replace the trash compactor that is also over 20 years old. Mr. Cote asked for a price clarification on the cost for the trash compactor. Mr. Long stated that it would cost \$83,665.00.

Mr. Cote asked what the need was for the F-550 rack body truck. Mr. Long explained that they will use the truck to clear their parking lot and to drop aluminum, brass and copper off at Winfield Alloy to raise money and save on hauling costs. Mr. Cote asked why they need a rack body for this. Mr. Long explained that they will dump the materials into the rack body. He explained that the truck they currently have can possibly be used for Parks and Recreation. Mr. Cote stated that he thinks this may be an unnecessary purchase, since the Highway Department is next door and can sand and plow their parking lot. Mr. Long explained that the Highway Department often do not have the time, and that the Transfer Station has always done their own parking lot. Mr. Bergeron added that they also use the truck to pick up recyclables in town.

Mr. Croteau asked how much revenue will be brought in by hauling the aluminum, brass, and copper on their own. Mr. Long explained that they will save \$180.00 a trip in hauling fees, plus they will make money off the materials they drop off.

Mr. Cote asked if the Transfer Station was still looking for a tractor. Ms. Martin stated that they are currently undecided what they are doing with the RFP right now. She also explained that if they do decide to look for a tractor, it will be in next year's budget. Chairwoman Corbett mentioned that they are running out of time and asked if there would be a finished draft RFP soon. Mr. Long explained that it should be completed by the end of the week.

The Transfer Station's 2022 operating budget was \$980,973.00. The 2023 default budget is \$1,171,177.00. This is an increase of \$191,224.00. The 2023 requested budget is \$1,226,845.00. This is a \$245,872.00 increase.

Cable Department

Mr. Greenwood stated that last year's budget was \$153,731.00. This year's request is \$165,647.00

He explained that the salaries budget is contractual, however, he is asking to raise the tech's hourly wage to \$13.00 per hour. He explained that they have been trying to hire a new tech, but they have only received one applicant in the past month. He explained that every state around New Hampshire, and even some places in New Hampshire, start at \$15.00 an hour, so they need to raise the wages to be competitive.

The supplies budget is slightly decreasing due to the Cable Department not using some of the supplies they used to anymore. The telephone budget has a substantial increase due to a monthly charge for a new cable modern that can be used in many areas around town when broadcasting live and recording.

Mr. Greenwood explained that the repairs and equipment budget is level-funded. However, he is looking to increase these budgets next year based on the new franchise agreement and possible equipment grant. There is a small increase in the expense budget due to the contract with the video on demand service contract with PTV increasing.

Mr. Greenwood stated he does not have any wish-list items, but that he would like to point out the revenues for the last year totaled \$194,357.84. He projects the total revenue to be around \$259,000.00 for the year.

Ms. Takesian noted that Parks and Recreation is also struggling to hire new people at \$13.00 an hour, so that it may be a good idea to raise the wages to \$15.00 an hour in the Town. She also asked Mr. Greenwood about the \$1,919.00 cost for the Comcast internet. She noted that this cost was listed in the default budget, but not the operating budget. Mr. Greenwood stated that the cost should not be part of the default budget, and that adding it in there was a mistake.

The 2022 operating budget for the Cable Department was \$153,731.00. The 2023 default budget is \$158,122.00. This is an increase of \$4,391.00. The 2023 requested budget is \$165,647.00. This is an increase of \$11,916.00.

The Cemetery

Mr. Gleason stated that the Cemetery Board of Trustees decided not to have any budget increases this year, except those that are contractual.

He explained that there is a \$2,548.00 increase in the budget for salaries that is all contractually obligated by the union contract for their full-time union employee. The \$562.00 increase is for fuel and is based on the Town's analysis of the rising cost. The \$720.00 increase in the budget for supplies is due to moving the JM Protection cost from the specials budget to the expenses budget. There was a \$180.00 increase for this due to the database they are raising their prices. He explained that they use this database to enter all burial records so they can be accessed by the public.

Ms. Takesian asked for clarification regarding the cost for the database and for JM Protection, since they were not in the 2022 budget. Mr. Gleason explained that these costs use to be put under specials in the budget, but that they are now listed in the expenses budget. He also explained that they used to be lumped together as one cost, but they decided to list them separately now due to contractual increases. Ms. Takesian noted that this needs to be adjusted on the default budget. She explained that the \$1,380.00 cost needs to be taken out of one line in the budget and moved to the line for the expenses budget, so it is not accounted for twice.

Trust Funds

Mr. Gleason explained that the budget is extremely small and will be remaining the same this year as it was last year. The budget for Trust Funds is \$335.00. Ms. Takesian asked if the bank takes care of the funds. Mr. Gleason confirmed that the bank does handle the funds. Ms. Takesian asked if they charge for this service. Mr. Gleason explained that the bank does, and that they are charged, but the fees are minimal compared to the number of investments they handle. He also suggested that there should be meetings with the Town's Finance Director to discuss the funds and capital reserves in the Trust Funds that are not being utilized.

Health Officer and Health Services

Mr. Demers explained that there were no budgetary increases under Health Officer this year.

The 2022 operating budget for the Health Officer was \$87,956.00. The 2023 default budget was also \$87,956.00. The 2023 requested budget is level-funded.

Mr. Demers stated that the Health Services budget had a few decreases. There were decreases in the budget for Center for Life Management, Greater Salem Caregivers, St. Joseph Community Services, Pelham Food Pantry and The Salvation Army. There were a few increases for the Lamprey Health Care and one other (unspecified).

The 2022 operating budget for Health Services was \$73,700.00. The 2023 default budget is \$73,700.00. The 2023 requested budget is level-funded.

The Conservation Committee

Mr. Steward explained that their dues will be remaining the same, at \$700.00. The prime wetland study for this year has been completed, but he would like to complete another study this year. Because of this, he left the \$2,700.00 for the study in this year's budget. He stated that the only new thing added to this year's budget has to do with the Master Plan. He would like to develop a Conservation Plan that defines the utilization and protection of the resources of the Conservation Plan. The quote for this project is \$3,800.00.

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ADJOURNMENT

321	The 2022 operating budget was \$5,989.00. The 2023 default budget is level-funded at \$5,989.00.		
322		juested budget is \$6,689.00. Additionally, the Board will consider the \$3,800.00	
323	wish-list iten	1.	
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325	DICCUCCIO		
326	DISCUSSIO	<u>ON</u>	
327	Th	to items for discussion.	
328	There were n	to items for discussion.	
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330	CELECTMI	EN AND TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS	
331 332	SELECTVII	EN AND TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORTS	
333	Mr. Cote ha	d nothing to report.	
334	MII. Cote na	d nothing to report.	
335	Mr Rargaro	on had nothing to report.	
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337	Me Takasia	n had nothing to report.	
338	IVIS. I akcsia	in had nothing to report.	
339	Mr Croteau	had nothing to report.	
340	wii. Ciotcat	a nad nothing to report.	
341	Chairwoma	n Corbett reported that this coming Wednesday at 6:00 PM there will be a topping	
342		at the Pelham Memorial School. The last Concert on the Green is next Wednesday	
343	night.	at the 1 chain Memorial School. The last concert on the Green is next Wednesday	
344	mgm.		
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346	REQUEST	FOR NON-PUBLIC SESSION	
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348 349	MOTION:	(Croteau/Bergeron) Request for non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II, A (personnel).	
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351	ROLLCALI	L VOTE:	
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353		Chairwoman Corbett – Yes	
354		Selectman Bergeron – Yes	
355		Selectman Croteau Yes	
356		Selectmen Cote – Yes	
357		Selectmen Takesian – Yes	
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359		(5-0-0) The motion carried.	
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361	It was noted	that when the Board returned, after the non-public session, the Board would not take	
362	any other action publicly, except to seal the minutes of the non-public session and to adjourn the		
363	meeting. The Board entered a non-public session at approximately 8:05 PM.		
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368	Respectfully submitted,
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370	Makayla Clougherty
371	Recording Secretary