



TOWN OF VINALHAVEN BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MINUTES

Tuesday, May 26, 2020

5:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

Budget Workshop

1. **Roll Call** – Selectmen Eric Gasperini, Pamela C. Alley, Phillip Crossman, Donald Poole, and Jacob Thompson; and Town Manager Andrew J. Dorr.

This was a virtual meeting in which BOS members participated remotely. The public may view the meeting by going to the Town of Vinalhaven Facebook page. This recording will also be made available and posted to the Town of Vinalhaven YouTube page.

2. **Approve Agenda** – Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve the agenda as written. Second by Pam Alley. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.
3. **Approve and Sign Treasurer's Warrant #48** – Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve and sign Treasurer's Warrant #48. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.
4. **Budget Workshop** – After the first review the FY 2021 Budget, the proposed increase was 7.46%. The Budget Committee went over the Budget for a final review and is suggesting some reductions, resulting in only a 5.26% increase. Andy shared their recommendations on the included memo. The Budget Committee also proposed some revenue increases.

There was discussion on what the \$2100 reduction at the Public Safety Building was. Andy said that was a reduction in utilities. Motion by Eric Gasperini to amend the Utilities budget for the Washington School from \$14,000 to \$11,000 (making the total Budget for Washington School \$61,365). Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.

There were some employee insurance changes that will be split with the Fire Department Insurance line, decreasing the total by \$4,984.26. Motion by Eric Gasperini to amend the Fire Department Insurance line to \$16,065.74. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.

There is a reduction of \$2,120 in the Utility line for the Public Safety Building. Motion by Eric Gasperini to amend the Public Safety Building Utility line to \$9,000. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.

Public Works Gas and Oil can be reduced by \$9,500 and the wages line can be reduced by \$3,000. Motion by Eric Gasperini to amend the Public Works Gas and Oil line to \$13,500 and amend the wages line to \$214,015 (a reduction of \$12,500). Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.

The Library Utilities line can be reduced by \$2000. Motion by Eric Gasperini to amend the Library Utilities line to \$7,500. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.

With the discussion of the part-time vs. full-time position, or part-time position plus an Island Fellow, the Budget Committee recommends reducing this line to reflect a part-time position which reduces the Planning and Community Development line by \$21,520. Jake asked how many hours the part-time position was now using and asked about making it 2/3 or ¾ time. Andy said it's about 20-25 hours a week now, but the currently budgeted \$44,400 would cover a part-time position and the work of the Island Fellow, so they would still be able to cover all the work needed. Motion by Eric Gasperini to amend the Planning and Community Development budget to \$59,800. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.

Andy doesn't have any quotes back for leasing a backhoe, but from what he could find he estimates \$15-20,000/yr. The Budget Committee discussed using the Public Works Equipment Reserve should a lightly used option come available for purchase, or leasing equipment for parts of the year (for example: a loader in the winter to load salt/sand into trucks or an excavator for ditching work.) There was a consensus of the Board to at least try this for a year and see how it works before committing to purchasing anything. This reduces the Debt Services line by \$27,000 (purchase of a backhoe) from \$327,516 to \$299,916. Motion by Eric Gasperini to amend the Debt Service Budget line to \$299,916. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.

The Board then reviewed the revenue offsets and using the Undesignated Fund Balance to offset 1- to 2- year projects. There was discussion on increasing building/permit fees to offset the CEO/LPI/Assessor budget, or implementing a fee for inspections one year after the permit was issued. There was discussion on transfer station fees. The Budget Committee recommends the Board reconsider mooring fees to support the Harbor Reserve. There was discussion on reviewing the fee schedule for the Ambulance. There was discussion on the excise tax being collected and that impact. There was a consensus of the Board to not include possible mooring fees collected in the revenue, since it will require much more discussion to be implemented. Motion by Eric Gasperini to approve the Revenue line at \$933,572. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.

- 5. Report of Town Manager** – *Andy mentioned he's been working on catching up on things that were pushing/delayed. The Northern Borders Grant is being submitted. Then being working on EDA funds for the Downtown Master Plan.*
- 6. Report of Members** – *Jake asked if Phil had heard anything back from the OPEGA review. He said he has not yet heard back from them.*
- 7. Adjourn** – *Motion by Eric Gasperini to adjourn. Second by Phil Crossman. Vote 5-0-0. Motion carried.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Bunker, Deputy Town Clerk

