

Donna Duclos called the meeting to order at 6:03. Present: Donna Duclos, Jim Reed, Kayla Chandler, Dana Swenson, Mark Cowdrey, Jess Rand, Aimee Herling (?) Elita Reed, Scott Hilliard, Jim Delaney, Chief Joe Mahoney. Public: Andy Guptil

Town Administrator Hilliard presented the proposed town budget: \$3,069,201.22, which includes warrant articles. Areas of change with a net increase:

1. 4130 Executive-increase due to 2 added members of Select Board-\$101,710.
2. 4196 Total Insurance including buildings, property liability, vehicles, health-increase due to 15% rise in cost and 2 new positions-\$419,553.
3. 4319 Highway, Streets, and Bridges-increase due to rising lease; payments for new truck; 1 new position; rise in fuel costs-\$709,162. Discussion re: required CDL due to State regulations; otherwise need medical certificate.
4. 4550 Total Library-increase due to move from 2 Part Time to 1 Full Time Library Director-\$46,050.
5. Police Department-increase due to COLA rise from 3 to 3.2%.

The presentation moved to the Warrant Articles themselves:

1. To choose the necessary Town Officers for the next year. (By ballot vote during polling hours)
2. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate (correct wording) the sum of \$2,703,902 for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in the special or individual articles addressed separately. The Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend. (Majority vote required)
3. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$295,300 to add the following previously established Capital Reserve Funds. (CRF) The Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend. (Majority vote required)

Revaluation CRF	\$12,300
Ambulance Replacement CRF	\$10,000
Highway Maint. Equip. CRF est. 1988	\$25,000
Highway Projects CRF	\$150,000
Police Cruiser Replacement CRF	\$26,000
Transfer Station Equipment CRF	\$10,000
Bridge Rehabilitation CRF	\$50,000
Forest Fire Equipment	\$12,000
4. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$55,000 to add to the following Expendable Trust Funds (ETF) previously established. The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend. (Majority vote required)

ETF Technology	\$15,000
ETF Forest Fire Labor	\$5,000
ETF Town Building	\$20,000
ETF TS Recycling Project/Solid Waste	\$15,000
5. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 for an engineering study for a Police Station addition to be built onto the current Andover Fire Station. This article is designed to propose joining the current Police Station and Andover Fire Station together as a multi-use safety facility. The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend. (Majority vote required)

6. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$52,000 for the purchase of a Police Cruiser and Equipment as part of the Andover Police Vehicle Replacement program. This money would come from the Police Cruiser CRF. This fund will have a balance of \$68,956 after the adoption of Warrant Article #2. The remaining balance of \$13,956 would stay in the Police Cruiser CRF. The Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee recommend. (Majority vote required)
7. To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$61,600 for the purpose of completing a Town-wide Evaluation of Properties. This Money would come from the Revaluation CRF, which will have a balance of \$61,689 after the passage of Article #2. The remaining balance of \$89 would stay in the Revaluation CRF. The Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee recommend. (Majority vote required)
8. To transact any other business.

The Public Hearing for the Town Operating Budget and Warrant Articles closed at 7:00 pm.

The Public Hearing for the Fire District opened at 7:01 pm.

Warrant Articles

1. To elect the necessary officers: Commissioner (3 years), Commissioner (1 year), Moderator (1 year), Auditor (1 year).
2. To hear the report of the treasurer, auditor, commissioners, and fire chief.
3. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$125,175 as the operating budget. This does not include appropriations contained in individual articles addressed separately. The Commissioners recommend. (Majority vote required)
4. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,500 to be added to the Equipment CRF previously established. The Commissioners recommend. (Majority vote required)
5. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to be added to the AFD ETF previously established. The Commissioners recommend. (Majority vote required)
6. To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 toward the truck purchased in 2023. The FD has enough for a down payment. The Capital Improvements Program committee suggests they need to reach \$100,000 in the CRF.
7. To transact any other business.

Operating Budget Notes

1. The Town will now cover all insurance costs.
2. The LRMA costs have risen. That is the fire aid dispatch.
3. Central NH Haz Mat dues are now tied into the LRMA costs.
4. Truck and Equipment Maintenance has risen due to aging trucks.
5. Motor Fuel has risen.
6. New Equipment, Administration and Training, Office Supplies, and Turnout Gear have remained steady.
7. SCBA costs have risen due to testing and maintenance.
8. Legal Expenses is a placeholder item.
9. Dry Hydrant Repair funds had already been encumbered.
10. Member Stipend covers the cost of gas for volunteers.

Revenue Notes:

1. Amount raised by taxes

\$215,175

With no further explanations or questions the FD Public Hearing closed at 7:30 pm.

Janet Moore
Volunteer secretary