

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING
TOWN HALL ROSE ROOM
MAY 29, 2018
MINUTES

Present: First Selectman Christine Goupil, Selectmen Jack Scherban, Phillip Sengle, Carol Walter and Tim Guerra

Everyone stood and pledged allegiance to the flag. The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM.

The Board of Selectmen held a special meeting to act on budget reductions to the town budget. The Board of Finance recommended a budget reduction of \$100,000.

Library

Maribeth Breen reported that the HCH Board of Trustees is offering up another \$10,000 in library budget cuts that will come from payroll, materials and reduced hours. Guerra made a motion, seconded by Sengle to accept the offer from the library for a total reduction of \$10,000. The motion was unanimously approved.

Selectmen

Scherban made a motion, seconded by Sengle to remove the Board of Selectmen stipend in the amount of \$12,000. The motion was unanimously approved.

Economic Development Commission

Scherban made a motion, seconded Guerra to reduce the Economic Development Commission budget by \$10,000. Sengle amended the motion to reduce the budget by \$5,000. Walter seconded the motion. The amended motion was approved with a vote of 3 in favor (Sengle, Walter and Scherban) and 1 opposed (Guerra).

WPCC

Sengle made a motion, seconded by Scherban to remove surface water testing line item in the amount of \$2,500. The motion was unanimously approved.

Park & Recreation

Bo Potter offered up a total reduction of \$2,000 from his budget. Guerra made a motion, seconded by Scherban to accept the offer from Bo Potter to reduce \$200 from general maintenance, \$150 from other supplies, \$150 from special events and \$1,500 family day for a total of \$2,000. The motion was approved with a vote of 3 in favor (Sengle, Guerra and Scherban) and 1 abstention from Walter.

Planning & Zoning

Goupil read a letter from Michael Rossi, Chairman of Planning & Zoning, supporting a full time Town Planner. A copy of the letter will be attached to the minutes.

Technology

Scherban made a motion, seconded by Sengle to remove training for a total amount of \$2,000. The motion was unanimously approved.

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General Government Other

Guerra made a motion, seconded by Scherban to remove the Chamber of Commerce donations in the amount of \$5,650. The motion was approved with a vote of 3 in favor (Guerra, Sengle and Scherban) and 1 opposed (Walter).

Guerra made a motion, seconded by Sengle to reduce contingency by \$20,000. The motion was unanimously approved.

Capital

Peter Neff, Director of Public Works, recommended removing the Public Works SS Sander from the capital budget. Scherban made a motion, seconded by Guerra to remove the Public Works SS Sander from the capital budget in the amount of \$10,000. The motion was unanimously approved.

Police

Scherban made a motion, seconded by Sengle to reduce Police overtime by 15,000. The motion was unanimously approved.

General Government

Sengle made a motion, seconded by Walter to reduce Union Negotiator Legal line item by \$10,000. The motion was unanimously approved.

Public Works

Peter Neff, Director of Public Works, offered up a reduction of \$2,000 from repairs & maintenance, \$2,000 from equipment maintenance and \$2,000 from Town building & facilities for a total of \$6,000. Guerra made a motion, seconded by Walter to accept Pete Neff's offer to reduce repairs & maintenance by \$2,000, town buildings & facilities by \$2,000 and equipment maintenance by \$2,000 for a total reduction of \$6,000. The motion was unanimously approved.

Total Reduction to the Town Budget

Walter made a motion, seconded by Guerra to reduce the town budget by a total of \$100,150 and send to the Board of Finance. The motion was unanimously approved.

Walter made a motion, seconded by Sengle and unanimously adjourned the meeting at 9:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schettino

**The following are recommended budget reductions
by the Board of Selectmen Referendum #3:**

Selectmen	
Eliminate Elected Stipends	12,000
Library	10,000
EDC	
Reduce Professional Services	5,000
DPW - SS Sander - Capital	10,000
Public Works	
Reduce Repairs & Maint.	2,000
Reduce Town Building	2,000
Reduce Equipment Maint.	2,000
Total reduction	6,000
Police	
Reduce Overtime	15,000
General Gov't. Other	
Remove Chamber Donations	5,650
Reduce Contingency	20,000
Total reductions	25,650
WPCC	
Remove Surface Water Testing	2,500
Park and Recreation	
Reduce General Maint.	200
Reduce Other Supplies	150
Reduce Special Events	150
Reduce Clinton Family Day	1,500
Total reductions	2,000
Technology	
Remove Training	2,000
General Gov't. Administration	
Reduce Union Negotiator Legal	10,000

Total Reductions:	100,150
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May 28, 2018

Clinton Board of Selectmen


Clinton Board of Finance

I am writing as the Chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission to emphasize the great need in our town for a full-time Town Planner. This office should also include responsibility for managing the Land Use Office. Without a full-time planner we have floundered as a community unable to get out of our own way and implement the Town Plan of Conservation and Development or make other changes that would significantly enhance our ability to attract and retain compatible businesses in our community. We have been spending \$48,000 a year for a part-time planner, that while competent is rarely able to attend town meetings and does not have our town as his single focus. The result is less useful than our needs..

The position also needs to include the oversight of the Land Use Office. As our outgoing ZEO noted, management was not his strongest trait and we need to find someone that can run the office efficiently and in a manner that supports local land owners and businesses. A planner that can see the bigger picture would be well suited to assign tasks in a manner that promotes the long-term interests of the Town and stays consistent with the Town Plan of Conservation and Development.

Years ago when we briefly had a Town Planner, we were able to make significant progress, but we lost that support due to short-sighted budget cuts. Please do not make that mistake again. We need the full-time Planner to remain in the budget.

Thank you for your time,


Michael Rossi
Chair, Clinton Planning and Zoning Commission