

APPROVED MINUTES
ORFORD BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES 11/13/2024
(APPROVED 11/18/2024)
Niles room

Members Attending: Bill Paxton, Bob Palifka

Selectboard representative: Kevin Follensbee

Meeting called to order at 4:30 PM

Read Mission Statement: Skipped as all in room were familiar with it

Elect chairperson: Postponed until next meeting when last member is hoped to attend.

Shared information: Four DRAFT charts to be placed in the Town Report were passed out.

Begin review of Selectboard data: Discussed percentage increases for provided data with some clearly standing out as much higher than rest. Asked questions about funding availability for Archertown bridge at Dublin Road, and was assured that funding was not from FEMA, and would be available to the best knowledge of the Selectboard. Chase Kling has found a Warrant Article from 1979 that allows the Selectboard to take out a loan in anticipation of taxes; if still active then there should be no issue of funding to pay construction bills due to cash flow. The Archertown bridge timing is now projected to start with bidding in April 2025 and possible construction start in July. Several construction companies say construction time should be approximately 3 months. High Bridge construction was also discussed, and Kevin said it is now #2 on the state's red list with construction timing estimated to start in 2029.

Any other business: Shared information that Herb Austic has decided to not participate in our committee, and Larry Duffy is resigning as he has moved out of state. Selected next meeting date: Friday, November 18th at 5:00 PM. Discussed town loader center pin issue, as the Road Agent had expressed interest in replacing loader next year. A second opinion has revealed that the pin play is not quite as bad as originally thought so it should be good for another year. Initial investigation into leasing for 7 years with a \$1.00 buyout in year 8 looks economically attractive when compared to the Capital Reserve chart, especially when all the major maintenance is included in the lease. Info is coming about Fire Truck #3 replacement cost for cost projections.

Meeting adjourned at 5:37 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Bob Palifka 11/14/2024