

# TOWN OF ORFORD

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

November 3, 2021

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Adams, Fred Kidder II, Chase Kling

OTHERS PRESENT: Esther Dobbins-Marsh,

Terry Martin, Bonnie McCouch, Tom Trunzo (Trustees of the Orford Social Library)

## **Call Meeting to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm

## **Proposed 2022 Budget**

The Trustees of the Orford Social Library representatives wanted to discuss their appropriation request for 2022 with the Selectboard. They are asking for an annual appropriation of \$35,500 based on higher salaries and expenses. The Social Library trustees have agreed to increase the Library Directors compensation to be more in line with the state average for librarians. The Trustees feel because the Social Library is open more hours, has a larger building and offers broader programs than the Free Library, their funding should be more. This appropriation would be a \$10,000 increase from their appropriation in 2021. Adams said historically both libraries are funded equally. How the Social Library chooses to operate their library is their business decision. For 2022, the Selectboard agreed to leave the total Library budget at 52,314 with 50% being allocated to each library.

The Selectboard reviewed the remainder of the budget as presented. The budget reflects decision the Selectboard made after meeting with various departments and input from committees and commissions. There are a few line items where numbers are estimated – as soon as actual quotes are received the budget will be revised to reflect those changes.

The Selectboard agreed to accept the 2022 proposed budget of \$1,201,520

## **Proposed 2022 Warrant Articles**

Article 3 – Appropriations to various health & service companies - \$16,878 – requests have been received from all entities, with the exception of Rivendell Trails. The Selectboard agreed to leave the total to include the Trails funding of \$450 for now.

Article 6 – Capital Reserve Account funding - \$344,386 – the total is based on the projected funding needs per the Capital Reserve spreadsheet (part of the Annual Report). The Selectboard made no changes to the total

Article 7 – Establishing a Revaluation Capital Reserve fund and fund with \$7,000 – this will allow the Town to save money for the revaluation contract fee in 5 years. The Selectboard asked Dobbins-Marsh to obtain additional information from our assessor as to the price tag for this service.

Article 12 – Paving Project – this article will ask for funds to pave roads in Orford. The Road Agent was meeting with the Road Commission group to discuss whether reclaiming/paving is

needed or just skim coating, and also which road should be the priority. Dobbins-Marsh will follow up with the Road Agent to obtain specifics for this article.

Article 17 – creation of a long-term Road Committee – the Selectboard discussed the language in the article regarding how members are elected, and their terms. Also, the Road Agent and a Selectboard member should also be members of this committee.

Article 18 – The Selectboard discussed the possibility of purchasing property in Town that would provide additional sand for the Town. Currently this article is a place holder as additional work will be needed to finalize the language.

### **Report of Wood Cut**

Property Owner: Moosilauke- Merriwood, Inc, Map & Lot #1-91-37, 1-91-13

Forrester: Jordon King, Hill Forestry, LLC

### **Correspondence**

9-1-1 address – Casey Gordon, 9-1-1 Field Rep with the NH Dept of Safety and the NH Dept of Natural and Cultural Recourses have been working on calculating addresses for spots where existing roads and off-highway recreational vehicles (OHRV) trails intersect. He is requesting a 9-1-1 address of 208 Mousley Brook road. *Motion made by Adams, seconded by Kidder to accept this 9-1-1 address. Motion passed 3/0*

### **Other**

- Recycling Center - Sandra Marsh requested changing the recycling center day to Sunday, December 26<sup>th</sup> and January 2<sup>nd</sup> due to the holidays. The Selectboard agreed to this change. Of the two dates, the board felt December 26<sup>th</sup> was the more important day to open the recycling center.
- JP Pest was at the Town Office to tighten up the rodent screen around the building, as it was pulling loose in various spots. The rep said the challenge is the bottom boards on the exterior of the building are rotting, and not holding the screws used, so the problem will continue over time. He suggested looking into spray foam insulating the basement walls, as this will help eliminate rodents from entering the building, and seal the basement wall cracks and crevices. Dobbins-Marsh will obtain a quote for the Selectboard to review.
- Kling reported on his inspection of culverts on Grimes Hill road. Only one culvert out of five were clogged.
- Kling met with Tom Thomson and Steve Griffin (NH DES Gravel & Tax Appraiser) to look over the sand pit. Griffin said the Town does not need an Alteration of Terrain permit unless its' decided to merge the two pits. Griffin said if the town has an opportunity to purchase additional land for sand access, it would be a worth while investment for the Town, as the cost of sand and delivery fees are extremely expensive.
- Kling spoke with Deb Burke, co-owner of the Vt. Forestry, regarding their property for sale. The Burke's are happy to negotiate with the Town to purchase their property on Townshed Road/Route 25A, and understand additional time will be needed for town approval and obtaining funding. There is a small house, septic system and well on the property which could be sold to help offset the cost of the purchase.

**Non-Public Session**

*A motion was made by Adams, seconded by Kidder to enter into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II(a) for personnel matters at 7:45 pm. A roll call vote of member's present was taken with a decision in the affirmative*

*The Board resumed the regular meeting at 7:58 pm. A motion was made by Adams, seconded by Kidder to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session. Motion Approved.*

**Adjourn**

*Motion made by Adams, seconded by Kidder to adjourn the meeting. Motion Passed.*

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Esther Dobbins-Marsh