

TOWN OF ORFORD

Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes

October 24, 2022

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Adams, Jen Carter, Chase Kling

OTHERS PRESENT: Esther Dobbins-Marsh (joined at 6:30), Fire Department: Terry Straight, Tim Hebb, Carl Johnson, Budget Advisory Committee: Ruth Hook, Tom Thomson, Lawrence Hibbard, Larry Duffy, Bob Palifka, Bill Paxton and Ken Wiren (via phone)

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm

Fire Department Budget request - Straight presented his 2023 budget request to the Selectboard. Changes from the 2022 budget include the following:

- \$4,000 in salary increases based on a proposed increase from \$16 to \$20 per hour for volunteers responding to calls, and an increase in officer stipends
- \$2,500 increase in utilities due to higher electrical rates and the price of heating oil
- \$2,000 increase for vehicle maintenance
- \$1,650 for computer software – not budgeted for 2021 but paid as the fee is for the CSI system thru the Town of Hanover

Fire Department Warrant Article requests:

- Purchase of a side-by-side UTV and trailer

Highway Department Budget request – The Selectboard acting as the Road Agent presented the 2023 budget request. Changes from the 2022 budget include the following:

- \$7,000 increase for Contracted Services to cover culvert replacements on various roads, along with other contracted services in 2023
- \$4,000 increase for Roadside Mowing – depending on the vendor, cost of gasoline and possibly mowing a 3rd pass. Estimates will be obtained to narrow down the cost
- \$1,000 increase for Shop Supplies
- \$1,000 increase for Safety Supplies
- \$1,000 increase for Personal Protective Equipment
- \$10,000 increase for Vehicle Maintenance due to the age of the highway trucks. The Town has ordered two new trucks, but no delivery date has been scheduled
- \$10,000 increase for Diesel due to the increase in the cost per gallon
- \$1,500 increase for Propane due to the increase in the cost of propane
- \$2,000 increase for Equipment Repair & Replacement
- \$500 increase for Uniforms
- \$30,000 increase for Gravel – during the 2022 season, the gravel inventory has become very low, plus additional gravel will be needed for work on roads in 2023
- \$2,000 increase for Salt
- \$500 increase for Road Signs as road signs are continually being taken

- \$750 increase for Tree Removal

Highway Department Warrant Article requests:

- Paving Project – no cost assigned yet
- Generator – installation of an on-demand propane generator – once specs are determined, a quote will be obtained
- Replace the Ford F-550 – no cost assigned yet
- Purchase of additional equipment such as a leaf blower, laser for culvert work, compactor and stinger teeth for the grader

Adjourn

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

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Esther Dobbins-Marsh