

LEBANON BUDGET COMMITTEE

Minutes, March 8, 2023

Lebanon Town Hall

- Meeting open- 6:00 pm
- Present: Elaine Hartford, Theresa Hartford, Chris Gilpatrick Jr, Chris Gilpatrick Sr, Laura Bragg, Jeri Basko, Deborah Wilson. Also present were Selectmen Paul Philbrick, Michael Walsworth, Shelli Boucher, and Chip Harlow.
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Jeri Basko.
- Minutes from March 1,2023 were unavailable.
- General Government (Highlights)
 - Liability Insurance was discussed. The Town is looking for a new insurance company as our current liability insurance will end on June 30th. The cost could triple due to all the claims, lawsuits etc. Even with coverage the Town will need to cover claims internally so our insurance does not go up or gets cancelled. Motion by Laura Bragg, seconded by Theresa Hartford to start a Reserve Account for Insurance. 5 yes 1 no 1 abstain. There was discussion on what the amount would be the Selectmen said \$150,000.00. More discussion about taking in from taxation or unassigned funds (Piggy Bank). Deborah Wilson made a motion, seconded by Theresa Hartford to fund the \$150,000.00 by taxation. 2 yes 5 no motion failed. Jeri Basko made a motion, seconded by Chris Gilpatrick Jr to fund the \$150,000.00 by unassigned funds (Piggy Bank) 4 yes 3 no.
- Transfer Station (Highlights)
 - The Selectmen want to add \$650.00 to dues/subscription to Transfer Station budget to join a co-op. They would like to have the

Conservation Commission work with the co-op to help with recycling and help reduce hauling fees. Motion by Chris Gilpatrick Jr. seconded by Theresa Hartford to add the \$650.00 to Transfer Station Budget, 6 yes 1 no.

- Codes/Land Use Budget (Highlights)
 - Appeals Board Training, there is \$1,000.00 budgeted. Deborah Wilson feels \$2,000.00 is needed. There was discussion about this no motions were made it was left at \$1,000.00.
- Highway (Highlights)
 - Road Commissioner Wages- The Selectboard asked Budget Committee if they would be willing to agree on \$48,000.00 for the Road Commissioner's salary. After much discussion motion made by Elaine Hartford seconded by Chris Gilpatrick Jr for the Budget Committee to recommend a salary of \$43,036.00, 5 yes 2 no.
- Legal Funds for Charter Commission- Selectman Michael Walsworth said if the Charter Commission is approved by voters by law, they need to have legal funds to contact a lawyer if necessary. There was much discussion if this is the right time to be doing this and the amount.

Next week we will be voting on the ballot items.

Motion to adjourn at 7:47pm by Deborah Wilson, seconded by Theresa Hartford, 7 yes 0 no