

Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Budget Committee

Meeting Called By: Budget Committee

Date, Time: 12/18/2023, 5:00 PM

Transcribed By: Courtney Palmer

Location: Tilton Police Station
Community Room
45 Sanborn Road
Tilton NH

Budget Committee Members

Katherine Dawson – Chair, Jason Wright – Vice Chair, Jane Alden, Paul Blaisdell, Charles Broughton, Scott Lewandowski, Eric Pyra – Commissioner Representative

Call to Order

Jason Wright called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM

Attendance

Paul Blaisdell, Charles Broughton, Jane Alden, Jason Wright, Commissioner Eric Pyra, Chief Michael Sitar, Administrative Manager Kathy Tobine

Minutes

Paul made a motion to accept the minutes of 12.04.23. Jane seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

WARRANT ARTICLES

Jane made a motion to recommend Article 3. Charles seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Article 03 Operating Budget

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee recommended sum of Three Million Five Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Six Hundred Fifty-Nine Dollars (\$3,525,659.00) for general municipal operations. This article does not include appropriations contained in special or individual articles addressed separately. This article is recommended by the Board of Commissioners and is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)

Commissioner Pyra made a motion to recommend Article 4. Jane seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Article 04 Apparatus & Equipment Replacement Fund Budget

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate Two Hundred Twenty-Five Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-Nine Dollars (\$225,559.00) for the purpose of purchasing Fire, Rescue, EMS Equipment and Ambulance Charges, with said funds to be withdrawn from the Apparatus and Equipment Replacement Special Revenue Fund established under RSA 31:95-C (Adopted March 7, 2005). Funds appropriated from this fund do not affect the tax rate. This article is recommended by the Board of Commissioners and is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)

Paul made a motion to not recommend Article 5 as written. Jason seconded the motion. Paul mentioned the typo in Article 5. Kathy fixed the typo immediately.

Jane made a motion to recommend Article 5 as amended. Charles seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about Chief Sitar's plan for the new ambulance and the cost being high due to the ambulance coming fully equipped. Discussion ensued about the money currently in the Apparatus and Equipment Fund. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Article 05 Purchase New Ambulance

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate Five Hundred Fifty-Nine Thousand Five Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$559,520.00) for the purpose of a new ambulance with equipment, with said funds to be withdrawn from the Apparatus and Equipment Special Revenue Fund established under RSA 31:95-C (Adopted March 7, 2005). Funds appropriated from this fund do not affect the tax rate. This article is recommended by the Board of Commissioners and is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)

Jane made a motion to recommend Article 6. Charles seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about the pickup that TNFD has currently. There was discussion about the specifics of purchasing the pickup and when they would get it, which would potentially be in Spring or Summer 2024. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Article 06 Purchase New Pickup with Plow

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$79,950.00) for the purpose of purchasing a new ¾ ton 4x4 pickup with plow with said funds to be withdrawn from the Apparatus and Equipment Special Revenue Fund established under RSA 31:95-C (Adopted March 7, 2005). Funds appropriated from this fund do not affect the tax rate. This article is recommended by the Board of Commissioners and is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)

Paul made a motion to recommend Article 7. Jane seconded the motion. Kathy mentioned that the last statement from the Land and Building Fund on August 31, 2023, shows \$781,474.70, not including interest. Kathy stated that nothing is being expended from this account. Chief Sitar commented that he doesn't see any expenditures on the horizon for next year. Discussion ensued about the site options for a new station. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Article 07 Add to Land & Building Fund

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) to be added to the Land & Building Capital Reserve Fund previously established and to make the Board of Fire Commissioners agents to the fund. This article is recommended by the Board of Commissioners and is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)

Charles made a motion to recommend Article 8. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. There being no discussion a vote was taken. Motion Passed.

Article 08 Fire Prevention ETF

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Nine Thousand Six Hundred Twenty-Seven Dollars (\$9,627.00) for the purpose of adding to the existing Fire Prevention Expendable Trust Fund with said funds

to be withdrawn from the Unassigned Fund Balance. Funds appropriated from this fund do not affect the tax rate. This article is recommended by the Board of Commissioners and is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)

Paul made a motion to recommend Article 9. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Article 09 Fire Prevention Budget

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Four Thousand Seven Hundred Nine Dollars (\$4,709.00) for the purpose of purchasing materials, tools, and equipment related to public education, code enforcement, training, etc., with said funds to be withdrawn from the Fire Prevention Expendable Trust Fund. Funds appropriated from this fund do not affect the tax rate. This article is recommended by the Board of Commissioners and is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)

Jason made a motion to amend Article 10 and make it \$1,500 instead of \$879. Jane seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Jane made a motion to recommend the amended Article 10. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Article 10 Health Insurance Deductible ETF

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$1,500.00) for the purpose of adding to the existing Health Insurance Deductible Expendable Trust Fund with said funds to be withdrawn from the Unassigned Fund Balance. Funds appropriated from this fund do not affect the tax rate. This article is recommended by the Board of Commissioners and is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)

Paul made a motion to recommend Article 11. Charles seconded the motion. Chief Sitar explained the rent made from the tower and where that money goes. The money in this article would go towards a microwave system, radio receiver, or repair to a building. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Article 11 Communications Tower ETF

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Three Thousand Eight Hundred Seventy-Six Dollars (\$23,876.00) for the purpose of adding to the existing Communications Tower Expendable Trust Fund as established by Warrant Article 11 at the 2021 District Meeting with said funds to be withdrawn from the Unassigned Fund Balance. Funds appropriated from this fund do not affect the tax rate. This article is recommended by the Board of Commissioners and is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)

Paul made a motion to recommend Article 12. Charles seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about where this is in the budget. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Article 12 Establish Contingency Fund

To see if the District will vote to establish a contingency fund per RSA 31:98-a and raise and appropriate Thirty Thousand One Hundred Twenty-Seven Dollars (\$30,127.00) to put in the fund. This sum is to come from the

Unassigned Fund Balance. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. Funds appropriated from this fund do not affect the tax rate. This article is recommended by the Board of Commissioners and is recommended by the Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)

Public Hearing

The Budget Committee discussed a public hearing date. The Commissioners recommended February 8th at 6 PM. The Budget Committee decided on February 6th at 6 PM.

Adjournment

Jane made a motion to adjourn. Jason seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion Passed.

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Palmer

Courtney Palmer
Administrative Assistant