

# Woodstock Board of Selectmen Minutes

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Wednesday, May 18, 2022

4:30 pm

Special Meeting

Town Hall, Room 1

**1. Call to order:** First Selectman Jay Swan called meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

- a. **Present:** First Selectman Jay Swan, Selectman Chandler Paquette, Selectwoman Charlene Perkins Cutler.
- b. **Others Present:** Finance Director Karen Fitzpatrick, Board of Finance Chairman Michael Dougherty, Dawn Adiletta, Preston Shultz and Recording Secretary Amy Monahan

**2. Citizens Comments**

- a. None

**3. Discuss and Approve Fiscal Year 2023 Adjusted General Government Budget**

- a. Jay Swan briefly discussed mill rate decisions that may have to be addressed in the future by the Board of Finance.
- b. Karen Fitzpatrick shared that the increase for health and dental insurance above the amount in the the rejected budget totals \$7985 (this represents the change in percent increase from 8% budgeted to 10.5% actual). She suggested that this difference in funding be taken from the Fund 51 Health Reserve fund (old account that needs to be closed out per assessor).
- c. Karen Fitzpatrick shared that the current Benzene account is expended, and needs continue with the Benzene concerns. She suggested adding \$3000 to the FY 23 budget for Benzene expenses (this is the amount that was spent in current budget year).
- d. Karen Fitzpatrick reported that the following departments have offered the possible budget reductions-
  - i. Linda Bernardi can reduce the Tax Collector budget by \$200
  - ii. John Navarro requested that any cuts be made in the tree removal line item as he will be getting ARPA funds for tree removal
  - iii. The Assessor's Office budget can be reduced by \$2000 in the legal fee line item
- e. Charlene Perkins Cutler suggests the following for finding the needed \$15,500 in cuts
  - i. 2000 from Open Space
  - ii. 4000 from libraries, 1000 from each
  - iii. 10,000 from Highway Tree Budget
- f. Karen Fitzpatrick suggests looking at the Arboretum due to the excessive amount of financial assistance in the past. Questions such as what is the foot traffic and what are the actual costs for the Arboretum were presented. She would rather see \$2000 taken from the Arboretum and then put back in the Open Space.
- g. Karen Fitzpatrick stated that there is a balance in the Fund 51 Health Reserve that needs to be closed out. These funds can be put to insurances allowing those funds to be freed up for other purposes.
  - i. Charlene Perkins Cutler suggested applying amount to cover cuts entirely from the Fund 51 Health Reserve.
  - ii. Chandler Paquette made a **\*Motion** to take \$20,985 from the Internal Service Fund 51 to cover funding needs for the FY 23 budget. **\*Seconded** by Charlene Perkins Cutler. **\*The motion passed unanimously.**

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- iii. Charlene Perkins Cutler made a **\*Motion** to approve the new adjusted FY 23 Budget in the amount of \$5,267,876 (or \$5,565,492 including debt service). **\*Seconded** by Chandler Paquette. **\*The motion passed unanimously.**

#### 4. Adjournment

- a. Charlene Perkins Cutler made a **\*Motion** to adjourn. **\* Seconded** by Chandler Paquette. **\*The motion passed unanimously.** The meeting adjourned at 5:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Amy Monahan, Recording Secretary. DISCLAIMER: These minutes have not yet been approved by the Board of Selectmen. Please refer to next month's meeting for approval/amendments.