

Town of Jefferson

Select Board Meeting

Budget Workshop

November 25, 2024

Jefferson Community Center

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Select Board Chair Terri Larcomb, Selectman Kevin Meehan, Selectman Norman Brown, David Passios, Eric (would not give last name), Maura Chappelle, James Akerman, Kyle Cormier, David Savage, Mike Kenison, and Amanda Simino present.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Athletic Association: Selectman Norman Brown asked Kyle about the \$1200 increase. Kyle stated that most of the line items went down but for the purchase of 2 outdoor basketball hoops at \$3600 is why there is an increase. Selectman Norman Brown asked if the space at the Jefferson Community Center was big enough to have two hoops. Kyle stated that when the building was a school, they had two hoops, and the Athletic Association feels that two should be purchased. Selectman Norman Brown stated that they might want to think about improving that area and making it bigger. The Select Board would like Kyle to get numbers to the Select Board for the improvements to the outdoor court so that they can work them into the budget. Amanda stated that she would need them before December 16. Select Board Chair asked Kyle if there was an issue with the skating rink liner. She stated she has had a couple of people inquire why it had been left out all spring, summer, and fall. Kyle stated that there was a hole in the liner and that David Savage will be picking it up to bring to his farm. The Athletic Association has put funds in their budget to replace the liner. Kyle wanted to let the Select Board know that the Athletic Department just got approval from the School Board to start a wrestling program for children ages 6-10 practicing up at the High School. The Select Board would like Kyle and David to get them numbers for their budget for wrestling, soccer, and basketball so that all sports are taken care of for all kids in Jefferson.

Police Department: Norman Brown presented the Select Board with the Police Department Budget. Originally, he was trying to hire a couple more Police Officers but hasn't been able to, so he went down through his budget worksheet with the Select Board to reduce the line items. Police wages decreased by \$3,000, mileage decreased by \$500, equipment decreased by \$1,500, and training by \$500. The total budget went from \$33,350 to \$27,850.00. Select Board Chair Terri Larcomb asked Norman about the Police Dispatch. He stated that it will remain at the \$3,500 figure because this will have to be done this year. James Akerman asked about the Special Detail for Santa's Village.

Norman Brown stated that the town gets reimbursed for the hour's work at the wage paid out plus an additional \$15.00 per hour for administrative fees. James asked if the taxpayers have to pay for this? Amanda stated no because it is a wash plus additional revenue. He then asked why the town has to budget for it if it doesn't affect the taxpayers. Amanda stated that per the Department of Revenue, no matter if the town recoups an expense with revenue, you still have to account for the expenditure. Maura Chappelle had a bill idea to require anyone that hits an animal in the roadway they would have to contact the municipality that the animal was hit in. Selectman Norman Brown stated that you would still want to contact Fish and Game so that they can give the individual a permit to be able to harvest the animal.

Highway Department: The Select Board reviewed the Highway Department budget. Selectman Norman Brown asked Mike about the cost of the equipment for the new product to use on the dirt roads for dust control Promag. Mike stated the price is for the product and equipment, it works like a lease. Selectman Norman Brown stated that the agreement is a little confusing regarding the amount of product that needs to be used for the rate given. The Select Board would like Mike to contact the company for clarification. Select Board Chair Terri Larcomb asked Mike why shop supplies went up, Selectman Norman stated that he budgeted \$1500, and the line item is already over \$4000. Select Board Chair Terri Larcomb asked what gets put under that line item. Amanda stated that it is a number of things such as DEF, grease, filters, oil, shop towels, etc. The Select Board are okay with the Highway budget. Selectman Norman Brown would like Mike to get Amanda a list of culverts that need to be replaced in town.

James Akerman wanted to know if a home on Rockwood Ave. came to the town for Short Term Rental. He stated that for a private road there is a lot of speeding traffic that is ruining the road. He and another individual that lives on the road help maintain the road but after all this traffic they are in need of gravel for repairs. Amanda stated that she was not sure if the property was granted a Special Exception. She let him know that he would need to contact Charlene Wheeler to know for sure. James asked the Select Board what needed to be done for the road to become a town road. The Select Board stated that it would need to be done at Town Meeting, and they felt it would be hard where it wasn't done when the subdivision was done. Unfortunately, there is nothing the town can do to help.

Selectman Kevin Meehan made a motion to approve Meeting Minutes as written for November 18 & 21, 2024. Selectman Norman Brown seconded the motion, and with no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

Other Business:

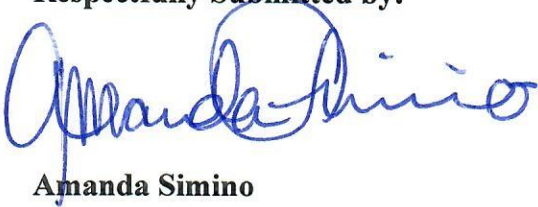
- Reviewed and signed Tax Collector's Warrant
- Reviewed and signed Sewer Original Warrant

Maura Chappelle wanted to give kudos to the Boards in Jefferson, she stated she wasn't sure if anyone had seen any of the recordings of the Dalton meetings but the members of the public yell and are very rude to the Administrative Assistant. She stated that none of the boards in Jefferson would stand for that.

Selectman Norman Brown made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 p.m. Selectman Norman Brown seconded the motion, and with no further discussion the motion passed unanimously.

**Next Select Board Meeting is scheduled for
Monday December 2, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted by:



Amanda Simino

Administrative Assistant to the Select Board