

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
Town of Durham Board of Selectmen
Jeff Wakeman, Chairman
Sarah Hall, Vice-Chair
Joshua Libby
Mark Blake
Michael Stewart

The Select Board Budget Workshop of the Durham Board of Selectmen will be held on THURSDAY , January 5th, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at the Durham Town Office, 630 Hallowell Road, Durham, Maine 04222.

AGENDA

Consideration of:

- I. Call to Order & Establishment of Quorum**
- II. Budget Workshop**

Adjourn

**Town of Durham
Board of Selectmen
Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes #1
January 5th 2017**

Call to Order: Chairman Wakeman called the Selectmen's Budget Workshop to Order at 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chairman Jeffrey Wakeman, Vice Chairman Sarah Hall, Selectman Mark Blake. Selectman Michael Stewart – excused.

Quorum: Chairman Wakeman announced a Quorum had been met with four (4) members present.

Also Present: AA/TA Ruth Glaeser. Secretary Jill Toher – excused..

Budget Overview: AA/TA Glaeser presented an overview of the bottom line for each department.

She stated that Workers' Compensation was overspent due to a new reportable incident with the Fire Department.

The DPW underspent in paving but overspent in the surface treatment line, the amounts come close to canceling each other out.

She also pointed out that the Road Commissioner's Salary shows reimbursements from Pownal as credits, adding their repayments do not necessarily occur in the same month as invoiced.

AA/TA Glaeser advised the Auditors want Truck expenses to be made into a Revenue Account so the vehicles and associated equipment can be depreciated.

Vice Chairman Hall questioned credits in June and November, 2016 in the War Memorial Park Account. AA/TA Glaeser advised these credits represent monies received from fundraising in conjunction with the Eagle Scout Project.

Vice Chairman Hall opened the discussion about initiating a Town wide capital plan. Chairman Wakeman posed some questions relating to prior earmarks already allocated as found in the fire department budget's long term capital plan. He continued that he feels that a Town wide capital plan would be harder for each department head to work with plus making the transition would be extremely difficult.

Selectman Blake suggested looking into perhaps setting up a new "Umbrella Account". Chairman Wakeman suggests looking into forming a Capital Plan Committee or perhaps charging the Comprehensive Plan Committee as part of the Committee's duties.

AA/TA Glaeser next reviewed the Extrapolation of 2017 Workers' Compensation Audit Figures which includes affects Public Works, Fire and Administration Budgets.

She stated that figures for Workers' Compensation costs has been separated out from Administration and now are allocated out to two new accounts: Animal Control and Telecommunications which provides additional clarity.

Budget Items:

a. Animal Control: AA/TA Glaeser reported that to compensate for deleting the mileage line, the salary line has been increased accordingly. She has also allocated \$300.00 for a new cage and some supplies as last year's expenditure was only \$106.37. Included in the budget request is \$100.00 for training for the Animal Control Officer.

The contract with Coastal Humane Society remains the same at \$5,003.00.

AA/TA Glaeser also moved the Worker's Compensation apportionment for Animal Control out of Administration and added \$153.59 to Animal Control Support and Benefits. The total 2017 budget request is \$1,402.00 less than last year.

b. Assessor: The \$20,050.00 requested is per contract and remains the same as last year's request.

c. Cemetery: The Committee is requesting an additional \$350.00 for equipment and materials to mitigate soil erosion and do some minor repairs to the cemetery wall, making the 2017 request \$4,200.00, or \$350.00, more than last year.

d. Conservation Commission: The amount requested is \$2,150.00, which reflects no change from last year.

e. Donations: Not addressed tonight.

f. Eureka Community Center: AA/TA Glaeser reported the Eureka Community Center Committee has requested no big projects for 2017. Unexpected repairs in 2016 cost \$355.00. The repair line has been increased from \$750.00 to \$1,200.00 for 2017.

g. General Assistance: AA/TA Glaeser stated the amount budgeted, \$3,000.00, remains the same as last year.

h. Parks and Recreation: Not addressed tonight.

i. Planning Board/Board of Appeals/Historic District Commission: Not addressed tonight.

j. Solid Waste: AA/TA Glaeser presented two proposed budget requests for Solid Waste. One from Pine Tree in the amount of \$200,753.00 and the other from Tice in the amount of \$194,330.00.

The general consensus of the Board was to stay with Pine Tree and put both RFP's on the Warrant.

A very lengthy discussion ensued. It was noted that Tice currently does not have much in the way of equipment and may also have some potential difficulties serving a seamless Bulky Waste Day, although the Board was assured by the he owner would sub-contract equipment needed for bulky waste. The Selectmen are still waiting for Tice's owner to come back to answer questions raised.

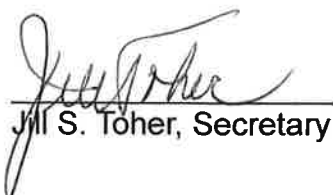
Chairman Wakeman suggested inviting both companies to the 2017 Annual Town Meeting to provide answers the residents attending may have.

Employee Health Insurance: AA/TA Glaeser reported that employee health insurance has increased by 11.25%. Board members discussed increasing the apportionment from the current 80/20 to 75/25 and maybe make some changes, via employee contribution and to look at making potential changes to family coverage. Also discussed was perhaps looking at a different plan with different percentages.

Board members voiced their concerns that lowering the percentages or having the employee make some kind of contribution to family coverage. This may affect our currently employee base and also affect prospective new hires as it relates to benefit packages.

Selectman Libby reminded all that pooling Durham with sixty-nine other towns through MMA allows for the most preferential insurance rates to both the Town and employee.

Adjournment: **Chairman Wakeman Announced** the Budget Workshop closed at 7:05 p.m. Respectfully submitted,



Jill S. Toher, Secretary