

DURHAM
BUDGET COMMITTEE
Virtual Meeting via Zoom
MEETING MINUTES
January 21, 2021

Chair Milton Simon calls the meeting to order via Zoom at 6:30 p.m.

Budget Committee members present via Zoom: Allan Purinton, Leigh Fisher, Milton Simon, Rick Emmons, Paul First, Jill Gastonguay, Neil Berry, and Lois Kilby-Chesley.

Also present: Kevin Nadeau, Chair of the Durham Select Board

Rick Emmons Moves to agree with the Public Works budget recommendations of the Durham Select Board of \$1,150,000, with \$1,011,552 to be transferred and \$138,448 to be raised. Allan Purinton Seconds. Motion Carries 9-0.

The Budget Committee goes through the list of 2021 budget recommendations, as follows:

Durham Fire Department:

Rick Emmons Moves to agree with the Durham Select Board recommendation that the Town raise \$485,000 for the Durham Fire Department budget. Allan Purinton Seconds.

Rick Emmons Withdraws his motion. The vote fails 6-1-2 (First, Simon: abstain; Kilby-Chesley in favor)

Rick Emmons Moves to fund the Durham Fire Department at \$472,753. Jill Gastonguay Seconds. Motion Carries 6-1-2 (First, Simon abstain; Kilby-Chesley Opposed)

Administration:

Rick Emmons Moves to accept the Select Board recommendation for the Administration budget of \$434,350, with \$112,974 to be transferred and \$321,375 to be raised. Allan Purinton Seconds. Motion Carries 8-1 (Berry: Opposed)

Animal Control:

Allan Purinton Moves to agree with the Select Board recommendation of \$17,760, with \$1,205 to be transferred and \$16,555 to be raised. Rick Emmons Seconds. Motion Carries 9-0.

Assessing:

Allan Purinton Moves to agree with the Select Board recommendation of \$20,700 for assessing expenses. Mike Clark Seconds. Motion Carries 9-0.

Cemeteries:

Neil Berry Moves to agree with the Select Board recommendation of \$4,650 for Cemeteries. Rick Emmons Seconds. Motion Carries 9-0.

Conservation/Recreation/Parks:

Jill Gastonguay Moves to agree with the Select Board recommendation of \$9,330 for Conservation/Recreation/Parks, with the total amount to be transferred from the Recreation Fund. Allan Purinton Seconds. Motion Carries 8-1 (Clark: Abstain).

Debt Service:

Allan Purinton Moves that the Town raise \$980,863 for Debt Service. Jill Gastonguay Seconds.

Allan Purinton Amends his motion to \$980,862. Jill Gastonguay Amends her Second. Motion Carries 9-0.

Eureka Community Center:

Milton Simon Moves to recommend \$6,813 for the Eureka Community Center budget, with \$490 to be transferred from rentals, \$2,264 to be transferred from undesignated funds, and \$4,059 to be raised. Allan Purinton Seconds. Motion Carries 6-3 (First, Kilby-Chesley, Purinton: Opposed).

General Assistance:

Jill Gastonguay Moves to approve \$600 for the General Assistance budget, with \$420 to be transferred and \$180 to be raised. Leigh Fisher Seconds. Motion Carries 8-1 (Kilby-Chesley Opposed).

Planning Board/Board of Appeals/Historic District Commission:

Mike Clark Moves to agree with the Select Board recommendation of \$34,627 for the Planning Board/Board of Appeals/Historic District Commission budget, with \$800 to be transferred and \$33,827 to be raised. Rick Emmons Seconds. Motion Fails 7-2 (First, Clark, Emmons, Simon, Fisher, Gastonguay, Berry: Opposed).

Leigh Fisher Moves to fund the Planning Board/Board of Appeals/Historic District Commission at \$31,742, with \$800 to be transferred and \$30,942 to be raised. Neil Berry Seconds. Motion Carries 5-4 (First, Emmons, Kilby-Chesley, Purinton: Opposed).

Solid Waste:

Allan Purinton Moves to agree with the Select Board and recommend \$310,000 for the Solid Waste budget. Neil Berry Seconds. Motion Carries 9-0.

Telecommunications:

Milton Simon Moves to transfer \$44,267 and raise \$0 for the Telecommunications budget. Rick Emmons Seconds. Motion Fails 5-4 (Gastonguay, Emmons, Fisher, Kilby-Chesley, Purinton: Opposed).

Allan Purinton Moves to accept the recommendation of the Select Board of \$55,767 to be transferred from franchise fees for the Telecommunications budget. Lois Kilby-Chesley Seconds. Motion Fails 6-3 (Gastonguay, Clark, Simon, Fisher, First, Berry: Opposed).

Jill Gastonguay Moves to transfer \$55,607 from franchise fees to the Telecommunications budget. Leigh Fisher Seconds. Motion Fails 6-3 (First, Emmons, Clark, Berry, Purinton, Simon: Opposed).

Neil Berry Moves to transfer \$50,000 from franchise fees to the Telecommunications budget. Motion Carries 7-2 (First, Emmons: Opposed).

At 9:28 p.m., Paul First Moves that the Budget Committee stay late tonight to finish the work. Jill Gastonguay Seconds. Motion Carries 9-0.

Raise Pool:

Allan Purinton Moves to agree with the Select Board's recommendation that \$12,363 be raised for the 2021 Raise Pool budget. Neil Berry Seconds. Motion Carries 7-2 (Clark, Kilby-Chesley: Opposed).

**Kilby-Chesley is Opposed because she believes the amount recommended is not enough.*

Capital Budget:

Allan Purinton Moves to agree with the Select Board and recommend the following (in order of ranking by the Durham Capital Improvement Policy (CIP) Committee:

Fire/Rescue Department: Air packs, \$60,000

Public Works Capital Reserve: \$30,000

Fire/Rescue Department Capital Reserve: \$30,000

Neil Berry Seconds. Motion Carries 5-4 (Gastonguay, First, Clark, Simon: Opposed).

Allan Purinton Moves to Adjourn at 10:08 p.m. Leigh Fisher Seconds. Motion Carries 9-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Dion
Meetings Secretary