

Approved
Ferrisburgh Selectboard
Budget Work Session Minutes
Tuesday December 20, 2022
5:30 p.m.

This meeting was held in person.

Selectboard in attendance: Jessica James, Jim Benoit, Chris Campbell, Clark Hinsdale, Red Muir
Town officials present: Pam Cousino, Deb Healey

Jessica James, Chair, called meeting to order at 5:39 pm.

Clark spoke about the wage pool being the same across the road crew and the office employees. They felt that 7% was too high of a number. Jessica has done some research and 5.5% is what she has been seeing, but that is still a high number. She would rather have a number that may be a bit higher and she would rather make sure we have a good number in the budget, but we don't need to spend it all. After further discussion it was decided to use 5% for the wages contingency line item.

Clark spoke about potential money from the sale of the Route 7 and 22A property and how that might be used to lower our debt.

Deb went through the spreadsheet for payroll and benefits and confirmed that the Treasurer position is still at 20 hours a week with no benefits, but they do get 10 hours a year of sick time, per state law. She then spoke about a grant match for the trails committee that was approved at a prior meeting, which she has added into the budget, which is \$2,031. There is also a Town Center committee and Deb suggested \$1,000 for that line item. Red then discussed the heat requirements for the Union Meeting Hall. Currently there is no heat in the building and won't be until we determine what type of system we will be using which is at least a couple of years out.

The Vergennes Fire Department contract was then discussed. Jim spoke about the fact we don't have much input with Ferrisburgh Volunteer Dept. we only own the building, not the equipment. They looked at the budget, subtracted the bond debt of \$65,000 from the total budget of \$303,770 and multiplied by 38% which equals \$90,733. That is the number we put into the FY24 proposed budget.

Jim made a motion to adjourn at 6:21 pm, seconded by Chris, so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Cousino