

Readfield Budget Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes – March 6, 2024 – *Approved*

Budget Committee Members Present: Andy Tolman (Chair), Ed Sims, Ellen Schneider, Christine Sammons, Marty Hanish

Excused Absent:

Others Attending: Eric Dyer (Town Manager), Teresa Shaw (Finance Officer), Anjelica Pittman (Board Secretary), Jaaron Shaw

Call to Order

Introductory Communications - 10 minutes

- Budget Committee Comments – None
- Town Staff Comments - None
- Public Comments - None

Regular Business - 5 minutes

- Review and Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes
 - **Motion** to approve made by Ellen, **seconded** by Ed, **vote 3-0** in favor

Old Business – 10 minutes

- Review and Discussion of Budget Adjustments – Eric went through changes added to the Budget Sheet Summary Revision History with the board. The Budget Sheet Summary Revision History page is located within the meeting packet, some highlights include:
 - Corrected the duplicating issue within the Library budget line #21 in TRIO
 - Eric checked with MMA and State Revenue Sharing II was cut which is a \$62,000 loss
 - Adjusted Motor Vehicles Revenue
 - Discussed possibly using funds from Legal Reserves to offset budget
 - Eric will discuss with Paula Planning Board member stipends

New Business – 80 minutes

- Budget Review
 - Discussed revenue reserves and warrant language for Town Meeting in June 2024
 - Draft Warrant is complete and will be reviewed by the Select Board Monday March 11, 2024
 - Budget Committee members can plan to see the warrant about two weeks before the next Budget Committee Meeting on April 10, 2024, also reviewed the rest of the Budget Committee schedule

Other Business - 5 minutes

- Other Business
 - Marty brought up the Open Space budget line as there are no funds budgeted for it FY25. Members discussed and decided that it is important to continue funding; it is not a priority at the moment with \$110k currently in reserves, and the Open Space Plan update happening soon. They also mentioned the Conservation Committee should be driving the funding for Open Space; could also look into getting a trust fund for Open Space donations.

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- Next Meeting – April 10, 2024

Closing Communications - 10 minutes

- Budget Committee Comments – Marty asked that everyone keep in mind that Kennebec Land Trust does not have much interest in purchasing small pieces of land and we may not have the same support from them in that respect. Marty is concerned with a question posed at a recent Select Board meeting to use Open Space funds towards the Fairgrounds Project, Ed responded that the Fairgrounds are Open Space so it would be appropriate to potentially use a small contribution towards the Project.
- Town Staff Comments – Eric will share the Audit results with the Budget Committee when he receives it
- Public Comments - None

Adjournment at 7:40pm

Minutes submitted by Anjelica Pittman, Board Secretary