

Readfield Budget Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes – Wednesday, March 8, 2023 – Approved

Present: Andy Tolman (Chair), Chris Sammons, Marty Hanish, Ed Sims, Eric Dyer (Town Manager), Teresa Shaw (Finance Officer), Anjelica Pittman (Board Secretary), Carol Doorenbos, Mike (via Zoom)

Excused Absent: Ellen Schneider

Call to Order

Communications - 10 min.

- Budget Committee Comments – Marty commented about the Fairgrounds Working Group, he said that Jerry Bley and Steve DeAngelis are doing a great job getting everyone on the same page and organized, the two main interests are a softball field and pollinator gardens. Currently, the Fairgrounds Working Group is planning on using fundraising and grant money to fund the future projects, however Marty was curious if there was money in the proposed budget for a grant writer or if there would need to be an article for the Town Warrant for grant writing. Eric said that would be under the admin line, and he will look into it.
- Town Staff Reporting - Report given by Eric
- Public Comment - none

Review of Prior Meeting Minutes - 5 min.

Meeting Minutes of February 15, 2023

- Chris **motioned** to approve the minutes as presented, Ed **seconded**, **3-0 vote** in favor

Budget Review & Presentations - 70 min.

- Eric briefed the board on current budget draft revisions (located in the packet). The board discussed the revaluation that will occur over the next four years, financing for the firetruck, how much reserves to put towards the budget to lessen the tax impact on residents and concluded that they would take another look once they see the RSU budget and how that will impact taxpayers. Eric mentioned important upcoming dates for the budget process as follows:
 - March 13 – Select Board Meeting
 - March 15 – RSU Meeting with Select Boards
 - March 17 – legal review
 - March 22 – Public Budget Meeting/Hearing
 - April 10 – Select Board Final Budget and Warrant review and approval
- Also discussed looking into a new bank as well as options for investment to get the best return. An RFP will be issued for banking services. Improvements at the beach would come from the operating budget. The library parking lot and upstairs work is budgeted for this FY but Eric is not optimistic he will get any bids as he reached out to 20 contractors and none of them bid, the Town maintenance department may have to complete that work.
- Waiting for bids for the Fire Department sprinkler system.
- The Church Road sidewalk project is in the budget and is on an 80/20 plan with the federal government. The town will pay 20% of the sidewalk costs.

Other Business - 5 min.

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- **Motion** made by Chris to adjourn at 8:10PM, seconded by Ed, vote **4-0** in favor.

Adjourn

Minutes submitted by Anjelica Pittman, Board Secretary