Readfield Select Board & Budget Committee Public Budget Meeting/Hearing Minutes – March 20, 2024 – Approved

Meeting Video Available <u>HERE</u>

Select Board Members Present: Kathryn Woodsum (Chair), Sean Keegan, Carol Doorenbos, Dave Linton, Steve Deangelis

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

Excused Absent:

Others Attending: Eric Dyer (Town Manager), Teresa Shaw (Finance Officer), Anjelica Pittman (Board Secretary), Bill Starrett (Channel 7), Liz Glover (Channel 7), Jaaron Shaw, Bruce Bourgoine, Kartika Wright, Penny Eno, Rick Dunton (Mainland)

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Introductory Communications - 10 minutes

- Budget Committee and Select Board Comments -
 - Both Chairs Kathryn and Andy welcomed all to the Public Hearing, all members of both boards and staff introduced themselves.
- Town Staff Comments None
- Public Comments None

Old Business – 5 minutes

- Review and Discussion of Budget and Meeting Goals
 - Kathryn discussed Select Board goals established at this year's annual Select Board Retreat. Kathryn reviewed the budget process and review so far. The Select Board would like to have the Budget Committee join them for a joint workshop at the May 20 Select Board meeting to discuss the CIP and accounting structure changes.
 - Andy reviewed goals for the meeting, asked to hear questions and comments as they come up. This meeting will also discuss key Warrant Articles such as Proposed LUO Revisions, Proposed Church Road Sidewalk Project and the Proposed Fairgrounds Project.

New Business – 90 minutes

- Public Hearing Presentation & Discussion Presented by Eric, attached to the agenda
 - Board Members and Eric discussed undesignated funds, how they should/can be used and how they intertwine with the Capital Improvement Plan.
 - Bruce Bourgoine endorsed the Recreation Coordinator position and thanked everyone for meeting tonight to educate the public. Bruce also suggested the town invite State House/Senate/County representatives to one of the May Public Hearings to widen the educational value and so the representatives can see how their budgets affect small towns.
 - Rick from Mainland discussed the Proposed Fairgrounds Project, associated costs, effects of inflation, as well as raising of the field to bring together two back-to-back ball fields for more useable contiguous space.

• Kathryn noted that one of the Select Board goals was to clean up and update policies this year and over the next several years and that work has already begun.

Other Business - 5 minutes

- Other Business
 - Homestead Applications are due April 1
 - Nomination Papers are due April 12
 - Absentee Applications available May 10
 - Public Budget Hearings May 8 & 29
 - Town Meeting is June 11
- Next Meeting
 - Select Board April 1

Closing Communications - 10 minutes

- Budget Committee and Select Board Comments -.
- Town Staff Comments Eric thanked Teresa for all of her work on the budget and he appreciates everyone's patience with the structure changes in the budget.
- Public Comments None

Adjournment by Kathryn at 8:08pm