

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OF EPPING, NEW HAMPSHIRE
September 28, 2021**



ATTENDANCE

Chairman Mike Yergeau; Selectmen Joe Trombley, Tom Gauthier and John Cody; Town Administrator Gregory C. Dodge; Executive Secretary Joyce Blanchard. Selectmen Bob Jordan was excused.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Mike Yergeau called the public meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

BUSINESS – BUDGET REVIEW

FIRE

Fire Chief Donald DeAngelis reviewed the Safety Facility Budget. The \$20,000 increase to the repairs/maintenance line for new hardware to fix the large doors was discussed. Fixing half the number of doors this year and half next year was explored. The Safety Facility budget is down 3%.

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to reduce the repairs/maintenance line by \$4,000 to read \$16,000 to fix half the number of doors was made. Seconded by Chairman Yergeau. Motion failed 1-3. Selectmen Trombley, Cody and Yergeau voted nay.

Fire Chief Donald DeAngelis mentioned he would like to insulate the bay area of the Safety Facility and wire the generator in the near future.

The Fire and Rescue Department Budget is down 1% mostly due to less COVID expenses and staffing vaccine clinics not needed. The budget was reviewed and discussed. Chief DeAngelis would like to have another Part Time position on nights. A cost analysis should be done regarding how many Part Time positions there are versus hiring another Full Time Employee. Clarification on the Year to Date Salary line needs to be explained before the budget can be completed.

POLICE

Police Chief Michael Wallace reviewed the Police budget with the Board of Selectmen. The Police Budget has increased 13% mostly due to a \$56,000 payment for body cameras.

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to reduce the Police budget by \$56,000 and put the body cameras on as a warrant article. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

The salary line has increased due to contract obligations. The equipment line increased by \$13,975. The Ballistic Shields are new to the budget and the number of them needed was discussed.

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to reduce the equipment line to \$27,700 which will include 1 ballistic shield and correct the number for sponge rounds to \$4,500. Seconded by Chairman Yergeau. Motion carried 4-0.

Police Chief Michael Wallace will review the equipment in the cruises and will list what can be reused.

TREASURY

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to approve and forward the Treasury budget of \$3,900.00 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Cody. Motion carried 4-0.

LEGAL EXPENSE

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to approve and forward the Legal Expense budget of \$20,000.00 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

CEMETERY

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to approve and forward the Cemetery budget of \$23,000.00 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Cody. Motion carried 4-0.

HEALTH TRAINING

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to approve and forward the Health Training budget of \$100.00 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Cody. Motion carried 4-0.

GENERAL ASSISTANCE

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to approve and forward the General Assistance budget of \$4,200.00 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

PATRIOTIC SERVICES

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to approve and forward the Patriotic Services budget of \$2,500.00 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

PRINCIPAL ON LONG TERM DEBT

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to approve and forward the Principal on Long Term Debt budget of \$275,500.00 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Cody. Motion carried 4-0.

INTEREST ON LONG TERM DEBT

Motion by Selectman Gauthier to approve and forward the Interest on Long Term Debt budget of \$99,890.00 to the Budget Committee. Seconded by Selectman Trombley. Motion carried 4-0.

The next budget review will be held on October 12th 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM to review the Highway/Transfer Station, Recreation/Watson and the Library if time allows. Selectman Cody would like to discuss the Town Web Site.

ADJOURN

Motion by Selectman Trombley to adjourn. Seconded by Selectman Cody. Motion carried 4-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

**Joyce Blanchard
Executive Secretary**

Mike Yergeau, Chairman

Joe Trombley, Vice Chairman

John Cody, Selectman

Tom Gauthier, Selectman

Date: October 12, 2021