



TOWN OF NORTHWOOD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

**BUDGET COMMITTEE**

818 First New Hampshire Turnpike, Northwood NH 03261  
(603)942-5586 Extension 2004 Facsimile: (603)942-9107

December 16, 2021

Chair Ginger Dole called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and opened the work session

**Present:**

Ginger Dole, Chair, Tom Chase, Vice Chair, Betsy Colburn, (participated electronically) Brad Hall, Tim Jandebaur, Michael Moore, Steve Robinson, Betty Smith, Paul Tudor, Ted Wilkinson, Pam Sanderson, Selectmen's Rep Jim Guzowski, School Board Rep Brian Winslow, Water District Rep Bob Young, Gulf Village Rep Eric Buckland, Cove Village Rep Mike Jobin.

Excused: Steve Robinson. Not Excused: Dan McNally

**Betsy Colburn is not attending in person based on her doctor's orders.**

**Town Staff:**

Town Administrator Walter Johnson, Finance Director Cheryl Eastman, Land Use Specialist Linda Smith

**Selectmen present:**

Hal Kreider

Chair Dole stated that the reason they are meeting this night is to finalize the Budget Committee's recommended budgets. Chair Dole stated that the committee has received by email some reductions for the committee to consider.

Discussion about the budget and the areas to make reductions as well as procedures.

**Motion: To reduce the operating budget to \$3,881,364, reductions include \$30,000 from assessing, \$15,000 out of personnel, \$80,000 out of police, \$40,000 out of fire, \$12,000 out of highway cleaning and maintenance, and \$5,000 out of recreation.**

**Motion: T. Jandebaur**

**Second: P. Tudor**

**Discussion:**

Mr. Hall stated that he just wanted to clarify if they vote on this, the changes to the warrant article will go away? Mr. Jandebaur stated that they should. Chair Dole stated that it would be up to the Select Board to decide if they wanted to revise their articles. Chair Dole stated that her only concern with this is that she would like some additional information as to why \$30,000 out of assessing, \$80,000 out of Police, etc. She stated that she understands that the selectmen can move the money around, but this is going to show when they go to Deliberative, and she would like to know how they are going to explain to the public where a \$40,000 cut in the fire department budget is going to come from, or an \$80,000 cut in the police department, where is that going to come from? The \$12,000 cut for the rental of the mini excavator is easily explained. Is Mr. Jandebaur suggesting that they should just say that the selectmen can spend this money any way they want. Ms. L. Smith stated that at the Deliberative Session there will be one number, and generally the public doesn't know that there is a \$182,000

reduction (from the original amount). She stated that doesn't believe it is the responsibility of the Budget Committee to explain every single difference between what the Committee recommends and the Selectmen recommend. Mr. Chase stated that Mr. Jandebour motion is to reduce the 4-million-dollar budget to \$3,881,364 by taking monies out of the following line items, \$30,000 from assessing, \$15,000 out of personnel, \$80,000 out of police, \$40,000 out of fire, \$12,000 out of highway cleaning and maintenance, and \$5,000 out of recreation. He stated that there was a clarifying question which was "if we do it that way, then all of this other modification that the Select Board made getting there number down to the revised amount of \$3,927,497, are ignored." Ms. Sanderson stated that Mr. Jandebour proposed reduction of \$182,000 compared to the Selectmen's proposal of a reduction of \$135,000 is different by \$46,000. Out of that \$46,000, the Selectmen have gone through the budget in a responsible manner and have taken cuts where they can do it, in a proper manner, not just by saying \$80,000 here, \$40,000 there. They have given a conscientious amount of money reduced by multiple lines with information that the committee doesn't necessarily have before them. If Mr. Jandebour is very concerned about the \$12,000 mini excavator, then she can live with that, but off of the new BOS recommended budget proposal. That leaves the Selectmen's responsible cuts in place, and appeasing Mr. Jandebour with a \$12,000 reduction, and leaving it over by \$28,000, and with a budget this size, it's within the percentage. It would be a responsible 4.2% over the default. Then they could explain the line item cuts that were made, not just by pulling money here and there without a solid explanation. It's a grand gesture to take \$182,000 off of the old proposal, but the Select Board made cuts of \$135,862. They are quibbling over \$46,133. It just seems not that huge of a gap. Mr. Jandebour stated that his reductions is a true \$182,000 reduction, the Selectmen's is a shell game and they really only reduced theirs by \$14,000. He stated that he would like to call the question.

**Motion: To proceed with the question, end discussion.**

**Motion: T. Jandebour**

**Second: P. Tudor**

**Betsy Colburn, no, Tom Chase, yes, Brad Hall, yes, Tim Jandebour, yes, Michael Moore, no, Betty Smith, yes, Paul Tudor, yes, Ted Wilkinson, yes, Pam Sanderson, no, Jim Guzowski, no, Brian Winslow, yes, Bob Young, no, Eric Buckland, yes, Mike Jobin, yes. Ginger Dole, No.**

**Motion carried 9/6**

**Vote on the original motion:**

**Betsy Colburn, no, Tom Chase, yes, Brad Hall, yes, Tim Jandebour, yes, Michael Moore, yes, Betty Smith, yes, Paul Tudor, yes, Ted Wilkinson, yes, Pam Sanderson, no, Jim Guzowski, no, Brian Winslow, no, Bob Young, no, Eric Buckland, yes, Mike Jobin, yes. Ginger Dole, No.**

**Motion carried 9/6**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Wilkinson made a motion to adjourn at 9:18 PM. Ms. B. Smith seconded. Motion carried by roll call vote 15/0**

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Susan Austin, Land Use Assistant*