Office of Board of Selectmen

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Selectmen's Budget Workshop Minutes
Wednesday, October 27, 2026, 4:00 pm
Belmont Mill, Tioga Meeting Room

Present were Chairman Ruth P. Mooney, Selectman Travis O'Hara, Selectman Jon Pike, Selectman Sharon Ciampi, Selectman Mark Lewandoski, TA Alicia Jipson, Executive Assistant/Assessing Administrator Colleen Akerman, and Finance Director Steve Forster.

Via Zoom was Selectman Mark Lewandoski (participating) and Budget Committee Member Susan Roache.

The Chairman opened the public meeting at 4:00 pm.

Cleanup Items:

TA Alicia Jipson reported NHDRA has not gotten back to us about anticipated revenues and setting the tax rate. They seem to be running behind.

The Capital Outlay recommendations from TA Jipson and Finance Director Steve Forster were provided to the Board for review at a future meeting.

Selectman Mark Lewandoski is participating remotely via Zoom. He is out of town and alone in the room. A quorum is physically present and all votes will be by roll call.

The Board verified the General Assistance and Building Inspections budget amounts as the prior motions were only approved "as presented".

Chairman Mooney moved to approve the final budget numbers for:
the General Assistance budget of $363,071 and
the Building Inspection budget of $137,796;
seconded by Selectman Ciampi. Roll Call 1: J. Pike – aye, M. Lewandoski – aye, T. O'Hara – aye, S. Ciampi – aye, R. Mooney – aye. Motion passed (5-0).

TA Jipson reviewed the remaining budgets with updates for final numbers. The majority were due to changes in Health, Dental, Short-Term Disability and Life. Funds were moved from the Conservation Commission budget to the Land Use budget and funds were added to each of the Town Clerk and Tax Collector Deputy lines following a vote at a prior meeting. Those amounts are $9,902 moved between budgets, and $1,800 added to each of the deputy lines. The General Government Buildings budget includes the final custodial and service contracts numbers. There is $20,000 for the environment contingency fund, which is not a capital reserve

or a separate budget. It can be used if we need to clean up a tax deeded property, remove a building or clean up an oil spill. The funds roll over to the General Fund if they are not used.

Selectman O'Hara moved to accept the 2027 proposed operating budget total of $13,073,846 which includes the following additional final budget numbers:

Land Use:	*$480,560*
Conservation Commission:	*$11,256*
Town Clerk:	*$148,413*
Tax Collector/Finance:	*$388,705*
Library:	*$240,136*
Police:	*$3,571,935*
Fire:	*$3,014,328*
Highway & Streets:	*$1,706,600*
Water:	*$521,346*
Sewer:	*$902,885*
General Gov. Buildings:	*$580,161*
Executive:	*$458,035;*

seconded by Selectman Ciampi. Roll Call 2: S. Ciampi – aye, T. O'Hara – aye, M. Lewandoski – aye, J. Pike – aye, R. Mooney – aye. Motion passed (5-0).

The Board continued discussion on the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund. Finance Director Steve Forster reviewed the cash flow for some of the options, keeping our existing commitments in mind and looking ahead to potential future equipment needs. It was the consensus of the Board to make the first ambulance chassis payment in 2027 to avoid interest, to purchase the medical equipment for both ambulances out of the fund and to not move any funds from the Ambulance Special Revenue Fund to the General Fund in 2027 so that the fund can be built back up. The next Board may choose to do something different with the funding.

TA Jipson reported she will start looking at quotes for bonding the library expansion project, so the numbers are available for voters. The expansion will be a separate warrant article on the ballot.

Selectman Pike asked if the Town has received the funds for the auctioned property at 200 Daniel Webster Highway. The deed has been signed and recorded, and the auction company has our check. We will have our funds in one week.

Adjournment:

Selectman O'Hara moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:40 pm seconded by Chairman Mooney. Roll Call 3: M. Lewandoski – aye, S. Ciampi – aye, J. Pike – aye, T. O'Hara – aye, R. Mooney – aye. Motion passed (5-0).

Respectfully Submitted By:

Colleen Akerman, Executive Assistant

Approved by the Board ____/____/_____:

Ruth P. Mooney, Chairman

Travis O'Hara, Vice Chairman

Jon Pike, Selectman

Sharon Ciampi, Selectman

Mark Lewandoski, Selectman