

**Town of Jackson Town Board
Budget Meeting
October 16, 2018**

The Town Board of the Town of Jackson held a Budget Meeting on October 16, 2018 at 7:30 pm at the Town Hall.

Member Present:

- Supervisor Jay Skellie
- Councilman Mike Nolan
- Councilman Travis Rea
- Councilman Carol Rich
- Councilman Edward Rouse

Others Present:

- Budget Officer Donna Nolan
- Highway Superintendent Sean Carney
- Town Clerk Tammy Skellie-Gilbert
- CARES Rep Sharon Dunn

Also Present: Alan Brown, John Gilbert

Nancy Quell, Animal Safe-Home Rehabilitation, LLC

Ms. Quell was present to explain that she and Ed Holland are requiring all of the municipalities they serve to sign a lease agreement to use their facility to house dogs picked up in the Town. Dog Control Officers (DCO) are not required to have such a facility, however, Animal Safe-Home Rehabilitation, LLC does provide it. The lease agreement is separate from the annual agreement the town has with the Dog Control Officer regarding the responsibilities of each entity. To utilize the facility the Town will have to pay \$1,000.00, in addition to their current annual salary of \$1,550.00. She also shared the various fees that can be charged for a dog picked by the DCO.

Town Hall Repairs - Shelly Clous was present with a quote for one replacement window, a composite or fiber-glass door and, new siding or flashing for the west side of the Town Hall. She anticipates the project will take as much as seven days for two people. The quote was for \$4,500. The Board would like to have at least two more quotes before making a final decision.

October 3rd Town Board minutes - Before the minutes of the October 3rd meeting are posted, the Town Clerk asked for clarification on Resolution #80-18.

RESOLUTION #83-18

A motion by Councilman Nolan, seconded by Councilman Rea; Resolution passed 5-0, **to approve the October 3, 2018 Town Board minutes with the removal of the following words in Resolution #80-18: ...as part of their compensation plan.**

Town Hall Furnace – On Friday, October 19th, Blue Flame Gas Co. will move the heating unit at the Town Hall to the south west corner of the building (near the Justice bench). In addition, the propane tank

will be moved to the south east corner of the Town Hall. These changes are being made so that when the ramp roof is installed, the heating unit will have proper ventilation.

Town Clerk's Office – The Town Board was notified by the Town Clerk on Friday, October 12th that the Town Clerk's office will need to be moved to another location citing that her insurance company wants a business policy on the residence because in their view it's a business operation. A comment was made that depending the increase for a business policy, perhaps the Town could pay the difference in the premium. The Town Clerk said it was not option and that she and her husband don't want a business policy on their residence. Since the current home owner's policy will be cancelled in early November, the Town Clerk's office needs to be moved by the end of the October so that proof can be provided to the insurance company prior to cancellation. The Town officials will meet at the Town Hall on Tuesday, October 30th at 1 pm to begin the process of moving the room to accommodate the contents of the Town Clerk's office. The goal is to have the office up and running out of the Town Hall by November 1st.

2019 Preliminary Budget

The Town Board reviewed the 2019 Preliminary Budget line item by line item. Several items were adjusted:

- Increase the *Buildings* line item by \$1,000 for fuel and electricity;
- Add \$1,000 to *Control of Dogs* for the lease of the dog shelter;
- Reduced salary increases of all highway staff including the Highway Supt. from 5 % to 2.5%;
- Reduced the Cambridge Fire District from an increase of 5% to 2%, and Salem Fire District from a 4.375% to 2%.
- Health insurance premium increases are anticipated to be significantly lower from last year.

In addition, the Board believes there's a possibility that the 2019 budget increase could exceed the tax cap. Therefore, the Board felt it was necessary to write Local Law #1 of 2018 to override the tax cap. A public hearing for Local Law #1 of 2018 will be held on Wednesday, November 7th at 8:00 prior to the regular board meeting. It will be followed by another public hearing on the 2019 preliminary budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Skellie-Gilbert, RMC
Town Clerk