

**Town of Jackson Town Board Meeting
Budget Meeting
October 21, 2020**

The Town Board of the Town of Jackson met on October 21, 2020 at 7:30 pm at the Town Hall for the budget meeting.

PRESENT:

- Jay Skellie..... Supervisor
- Mike Nolan..... Councilman
- Travis Rea..... Councilman
- Carol Rich..... Councilwoman
- Edward Rouse..... Councilman
- Tammy Skellie-Gilbert..... Town Clerk
- Sean Carney..... Highway Superintendent
- Donna Nolan..... Budget Officer

Also, present: Christine Eldred, The Eagle

Supervisor Skellie started the meeting with an update on the CHIPs reimbursement funds that Jackson has yet to receive from the State. After receiving notice last spring that the State might reduce each municipality’s CHIPs allocations by 20-25%, the decision was made to spend only 80% of Jackson projected funds for summer paving assuming that Jackson would be reimbursed in full for those funds. The State never explained how it would reduce the total amount of money. Recently, Supervisor Skellie learned that the State would retain 20% of the total amount of money submitted for reimbursement. He appealed to Peter Rea, State DOT Regional Chips Representative. Supervisor Skellie explained that the State never clarified verbally nor in writing how it intended to reduce the CHIPs funds and that the Town of Jackson had planned ahead and only spent 80% of its allocation. Mr. Rea stated that Jackson could resubmit for the remaining funds in hopes of receiving a substantial portion, however, there’s no guarantees. Mr. Rea also forwarded the email to another office in hopes of educating the State about the challenges small municipalities are facing.

The Town Board reviewed the budget line item by line item. The following changes were made to the preliminary budget:

- Cambridge Fire District’s request was reduced to a 2% increase (or \$662 over 2019);
- The Planning Board Clerk salary would be a 10% increase (or \$140 over 2019);
- The increase to the Court Clerk’s salary will be absorbed by reducing the Justice contractual expenses by \$600;
- All other salaries requested will be no more than 2%; and

- The machinery contractual line item was reduced by \$8,900 to bring the projected 2021 budget under the 1.9% tax cap. If the Town receives more CHIPs money those funds will be used to replenish this line item.

A public hearing on the 2021 preliminary budget will be held on Wednesday, November 4th at 8:00 pm prior to the regular Town Board meeting.

RESOLUTION #79-20

Following the reading of the minutes, a motion by Councilman Rea, seconded by Councilwoman Rich; Resolution passed 5-0, **to accept the September 2, 2020 Special Town Board minutes as written.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Skellie-Gilbert, RMC
Town Clerk

DRAFT