

**Board of Selectmen  
October 7, 2020**

**Present:** Mark P. Duffy, Chair; Richard C. Edwards; Kenneth G. Fifield; Dino A. Scala, Town Administrator; and Toni Bodah, Secretary.

Department Heads/Committee Representatives were present as indicated below. Mr. Duffy called the posted meeting to order at 5:05 p.m.

**Wakefield Library – Nancy Hall**

The Board reviewed year-to-date expenditures, which Ms. Hall believes will be over-expended by year-end. This is a normal occurrence, and the Library has other funds that it uses. Ms. Hall anticipates fuel usage will remain the same. The Library is currently offering curbside pickup service. Mr. Duffy questioned whether the building should be shut down during COVID. Ms. Hall stressed that a number of patrons still depend on the Wakefield Library. Books are still being purchased. Even if the building were closed, the heat would need to run to protect the books. Although the Library is available only a limited number of hours, they have pledged to keep the Librarian employed, at least for the rest of the year. She advised the Wakefield Library is not connected to the Gafney Library (although they're friends!).

Ms. Hall confirmed to Mr. Fifield that they do not expect any unexpended funds in 2020 to apply against 2021. Mr. Edwards referred to the Board's goal to flatline the 2021 budget. Ms. Hall understood. **Mr. Edwards moved the revised line total at \$10,410 (same as 2020). Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

**Gafney Library – Beryl Donovan (via Zoom)**

Handouts were provided to the Board. The Gafney is seeking level-funding at \$138,000. **Mr. Duffy moved the line total at \$138,000. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

**Adult Learning Center Beryl Donovan (still Zooming)**

Mr. Edwards questioned why Wakefield pays for individuals using the Center from other towns. Ms. Donovan stated that according to the Department of Education, the Center cannot turn anyone away. Other towns have been approached for funding without success. Ms. Donovan explained that the HiSET Testing Center is funded by the SAU. She added that at least half of those from other towns are people walking in to take the test, for which they must pay \$20. Ms. Donovan advised Mr. Fifield that other towns have not asked us to contribute when Wakefield residents utilize their programs. **Mr. Fifield moved the line at \$25,000. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

The Board recessed from 5:35 – 5:47.

**Ambulance – Chief Todd Nason**

Brief discussion of Ossipee Valley Dues (in the Fire budget) being necessary, in part, for dispatching. Chief Nason noted that this budget would increase by \$9000, all of which is wage related. **Mr. Edwards moved the section total at \$544,466. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

**General Fire – Chief Todd Nason**

Chief Nason advised that the call hours in FA Salaries (01-42201-120) has been estimated. Vehicle Maintenance (01-42201-660) has been increased as our equipment is getting older. Engine 2 (2006) needs work.

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The Hydrant line (01-42201-630) is under-expended because we had more rain than snow last year. That could change in 2021. **Mr. Edwards moved the section total at \$210,605. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

Mr. Nason confirmed to Mr. Scala that the purchase order (\$9973 for supplies) would come from line 01-42201-740.

**East Wakefield, Union and Forest Fires**

Chief Nason referred to a major wiring project at the East Wakefield station this year. A similar project is planned for the Union station. Both relate to installation of a monitoring system for the heat at each station. **Mr. Edwards moved the East Wakefield Station at \$6811, the Union Station at \$6230, and Forest Fires at \$2000. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

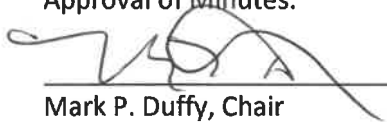
Chief Nason is considering rehabbing the rescue truck (to avoid replacing same). He intends to keep the old ambulance as a back-up as its value is next to nothing. The defibrillators should be good until the end of next year.

Discussion turned to staffing in the BI/Code Department. Mr. Edwards would be interested in compilation of a list of processes that overburden that office, with a view to eliminating unnecessary processes. Perhaps a work session with Mr. Vinagro would be in order. The Board agreed streamlining some processes could be helpful to the public, as well as the BI/Code office.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Toni Bodah, Secretary

Approval of Minutes:

  
Mark P. Duffy, Chair

Richard C. Edwards

  
Kenneth G. Fifield