

**Board of Selectmen  
October 4, 2021**

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

Department Heads/Committee Chairs were present as indicated below. Mr. Duffy called the posted meeting to order at 5:26 p.m.

**Community Services – Parks & Recreation – Wayne Robinson** – Mr. Fifield noted his hope that the Town eventually has beach monitors at more locations. Line 01-45201-635 Gasoline is currently over-expended. Likely this is due to having used the truck to assist the Highway Department with plowing last season. Mr. Robinson noted that P&R is likely to plan more trips for 2022 than in 2021. It was agreed that when the truck is used to plow for the Town, the cost of fuel should be charged to the DPW budget. **Mr. Edwards moved to increase line 01-45201-635 to \$800. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

**Mr. Edwards moved the section total at \$199,239. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

**General Government – Town Hall Annex – Wayne Robinson** – Mr. Robinson advised that he has decided against replacing the existing phone system and suggested reducing the line (01-41942-430). **Mr. Edwards moved to reduce line 01-41942-430 to \$2085 (from \$5585). Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

**Mr. Edwards moved the section total at \$16,612. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

Mr. Robinson referred to the proposed community center. The initial phase was paid with Parks & Rec funds, and Mr. Robinson hopes the next phase will be paid from the DPW budget. He would like to see whether the voters would support this proposal. Mr. Fifield cautioned that we cannot put off this project or we risk loss of attractive bond rates. The subcommittee will meet again next week. They are attempting to adjust the initial plan and reduce the overall anticipated costs. Mr. Duffy asked if it would be possible to separate the 2 operations into 2 buildings. Mr. Robinson noted it is possible; however, it is believed it would save money later by combining the 2 operations. Mr. Edwards believes it would be less expensive to build/maintain separate operations. Mr. Fifield referred to being able to use shared space. He stressed we should determine which projects should be accomplished and seek a bond. Mr. Duffy stated that any bond should include this project—either 1 or 2 buildings. Mr. Fifield stated that there will be site development regardless of whether there are 1 or 2 buildings. We need to plan building(s) for the best fit of the land.

**General Government – Elections, Registrations, Vitals – Valerie Ward** – Mr. Fifield noted that the wage lines should not include anticipated merit increases. Rather, the Board will decide upon a COLA to apply to all wage lines. The wage lines for Deputy (01-41401-110) and Town Clerk (01-41401-130) were adjusted accordingly. **Mr. Edwards moved the section total at \$120,905. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

**General Government – Financial Administration – Angie Nichols** – Mr. Fifield advised the wage lines will be revised as they should not include anticipated merit increases.

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These lines will be adjusted once the Board votes on the COLA percentage to be applied. Ms. Nichols expressed concern about the postage line (01-41504-625) as it is difficult to predict increases in rates. **Mr. Edwards moved to increase line 01-41504-625 to \$8500 (from \$7600). Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

**Mr. Edwards moved the section total at \$110,016. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

Mr. Scala then referred to the Carroll County Communications District Planning Committee and suggested that the Board appoint him, and one other of his choosing, as representatives to this Committee. The Board agreed by consensus to accommodate Mr. Scala's request.

**Mr. Edwards moved to adjourn at 7:06 p.m. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Toni Bodah, Secretary

Approval of Minutes:

  
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Mark P. Duffy, Chair

  
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Richard C. Edwards

  
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Kenneth G. Fifield