Board of Selectmen October 21, 2021

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

Mr. Duffy called the posted meeting to order at 6p.m. Review of the proposed 2022 budget followed.

<u>General Government – Legal</u> – Mr. Scala recommended level funding (01-41531-320). He referred to a number of potential future legal issues. **Mr. Fifield moved the section at \$15,000. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

General Government – Personnel Benefits – Reviewed the Merit/Sick Pay line (01-41551-190), as well as the methodology used to estimate the addition of \$30,000 (in addition to the \$20,000 for sick pay buyout liability/buffer). Mr. Fifield suggested adding another \$10,000 - \$15,000 to allow the Board more flexibility when awarding merit increases. Mr. Duffy referred to the increase in wages offered overall across the country. Mr. Fifield moved to increase this line to \$60,000. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

The cost of health insurance went down for 2022 (01-41551-210). Mr. Fifield is interested to know the cost of the plans for school employees vs. the cost of plans for Town employees. Mr. Fifield moved the section total at \$1,442,359. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

<u>General Government – Town Hall</u> – Mr. Edwards moved the section total at 55,650. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

All wage-related lines have been adjusted by the 3% COLA. **Mr. Duffy moved to approve all wage-related adjustments. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

<u>General Government – Insurance</u> – Mr. Edwards moved the section total at \$132,969. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

The Board viewed the requests made by outside agencies; however, no votes were taken on these requests.

Mr. Edwards moved to adjourn at 6:35 p.m. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted, Toni Bodah, Secretary

Approval of Minutes:

Mark P. Duffy, Chair

Ridhard C. Edwards

Kenneth G. Fifteld