

**TOWN OF ATKINSON**  
**BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Tuesday, November 28, 2023**

**Members Present**

Wendy Barker, Chair  
Pete Torosian, Vice Chair  
Sam Butler  
Deb Cornish  
Bob Malo  
Bill Smith  
Dave Paquette, Selectmen Representative

**Others Present**

John Apple, Town Administrator (by phone)

**Agenda:** Budget Review

**Administrator Apple** stated Updates were made to **Library** Lines as follows:

- **Line 45500.220.00 FICA** should be \$22,168.
- **Line 45500.225.00 Medicare** should be \$5,184.
- **Line 45500.230.00 Retirement** should be \$35,662.

**Executive**

- Board of Selectmen  
**Member Malo** recommends the BoS salary be reduced by 25%.

**Elections and Registration**

- Town Clerk
  - Elections
- No comments or questions.

**Financial Administration**

- Accounting and Financial  
No comments or questions.
- Tax Collecting  
**Member Malo** recommended that Education and Conferences be reduced by 25%.  
**Vice Chair Torosian** made a motion for Line 41502.390.00 Other Professional Services be reduced from \$3,000 to \$1500.  
**Member Malo** seconded the motion.  
**Vice Chair Torosian** rescinded his motion after further discussion.

**Legal Services**

No comments or questions.

43 [Personnel Administration](#)

44 No comments or questions.

45

46 [Planning and Zoning](#)

47 **Vice Chair Torosian** made a motion for Line 41911.390.00 Other Professional Services be reduced  
48 from \$15,000 to \$14,000.

49 **Member Smith** seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 7/0/0**

50

51 [Zoning and Appeals](#)

52 No comments or questions.

53

54 [General Government Buildings](#)

55 No comments or questions.

56

57 [Cemeteries](#)

58 No comments or questions.

59

60 [Other Insurances](#)

61 No comments or questions.

62

63 [Police Department](#)

64 No comments or questions.

65

66 [Ambulance](#)

67 No comments or questions.

68

69 [Fire Department](#)

70 **Vice Chair Torosian** made a motion for Line 42200.110.05 Fire Inspector to be reduced from  
71 \$15,585 to \$13,585.

72 **Member Smith** seconded the motion

73 After further discussion, Vice Chair Torosian rescinded the motion. No vote was taken.

74 **Vice Chair Torosian** suggested reducing the Rural Water Supply line from \$10,000 to \$8,000 and the  
75 Holiday Pay be reduced to \$16,616.

76 **Chair Barker** will follow up with the Fire Chief.

77

78 [Building Inspections](#)

79 No comments or questions.

80

81 [Emergency Management](#)

82 No comments or questions.

83

84 [Dispatch](#)

**Administrator Apple** said there was no final amount yet.

### Public Works

- Administration

No comments or questions.

- Highway and Streets

**Member Malo** recommends reducing **Line 43110.341.00 Radio Maintenance** from \$500 to \$300.

**Member Malo** recommends reducing **Line 43110.875.00 Signs and Line Painting** from \$19,000 to \$15,000.

**Member Malo** made a motion to reduce **Line 43110.890.02 Tree Removal** from \$15,000 to \$13,000.

**Vice Chair Torosian** seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 7/0/0**

### Street Lighting

No comments or questions.

### Recycling

No comments or questions.

### Solid Waste

No comments or questions.

### Fire Hydrant Utilities

**Vice Chair Torosian** recommends that the cost of hydrants on private roads should be paid by the owner of the property.

### Animal Control

**Member Malo** suggests that \$500 for uniforms is unnecessary.

**Vice Chair Torosian** will follow up with Chief Crowley.

### Health Agencies

**Chair Barker** made a motion to add **Line 44150.350.06 Rockingham Nutrition and Meals on Wheels**.

**Vice Chair Torosian** seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 7/0/0**

**Member Malo** will check if Meals on Wheels coordinates with Elder Services.

**Chair Barker** made a motion to add \$3,811 back on to **Line 44150.350.06 Rockingham Nutrition and Meals on Wheels**.

**Member Cornish** seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 7/0/0**

127 [General Assistance](#)  
128 No comments or questions.  
129  
130 [Elder Services](#)  
131 No comments or questions.  
132  
133 [Recreation](#)  
134 **Member Malo** made a motion to reduce **Line 45201.890.00 Contract Labor** from \$10,000 to \$8,000.  
135 **Vice Chair Torosian** seconded the motion. Five members were in favor; two members were not in  
136 favor (Butler/Paquette). **Vote: 5/2/0**  
137  
138 [Care of Grounds](#)  
139 Discussion concerning fertilizer costs.  
140  
141 [Library](#)  
142 **Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the updates to **Line 45500.220.00 FICA** for \$22,168, **Line**  
143 **45500.225.00 Medicare** for \$5,184, and **Line 45500.230.00 Retirement** for \$35,662 for a total  
144 increase of \$4,600 and the Library Total Unit of \$629,894.  
145 **Member Cornish** seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 7/0/0**  
146  
147 [Memorial Day](#)  
148 No comments or questions.  
149  
150 [Cable Operations](#)  
151 No comments or questions.  
152  
153 [Conservation](#)  
154 Comments were made that maps are not needed.  
155  
156 [Long Term Debt Principle & Long Term Debt Interest](#)  
157 No comments or questions.  
158  
159 **Chair Barker** will draft a letter for all Department Heads requesting they make an effort for 5%  
160 reduction.  
161  
162 [Minutes](#)  
163 All Minutes will be reviewed and approved at the next meeting.  
164  
165 **Chair Barker** made a motion to adjourn.  
166 **Vice Chair Torosian** seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 7/0/0**  
167  
168 Next Budget Committee Meeting: December 5, 2023  
169 On December 5, 2023, several meeting minutes will be approved.

170 The Atkinson Budget Committee Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.