

TOWN OF ATKINSON  
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING  
Tuesday, November 14, 2023

**Members Present**

**Others Present**

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

**Agenda:** Attendance, Budget Review

**Chair Barker** made a motion to reduce Elections Line **41402.740.00 New Equipment** from \$12,000 to \$10,000.

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

**Fire Department**

- There will be a pay increase for officers and other personnel of \$2 per person in May and \$2 increase in December.
- Decrease in truck maintenance by \$7,500.
- Increase for vehicle repairs

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Fire Department Unit Total of \$1,028,951.

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

**Building Inspections**

- BoS reduced Code Enforcement Officer by 50%.

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Building Inspections Unit Total of \$116,279.

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

**Emergency Management**

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Emergency Management Unit Total of \$3.

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

**Dispatch**

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Dispatch Unit Total of \$58,000.

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

**Public Works Department**

- There are several increases due to repairs, maintenance and price increases.

**Vice Chair Torosian** made a motion to reduce Line 43110.890.01 Contract Labor from \$130,000 to \$120,000.

**Member Smith** seconded the motion. Six members were in favor; one (Butler) was not.

**Vote: 6/1/0**

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Public Works Department Unit Total of \$628,154.

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

#### Street Lighting

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Street Lighting Unit Total of \$34,800.

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

#### Recycling

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Recycling Unit Total of \$70,952.

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

#### Solid Waste

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Solid Waste Unit Total of \$587,002.

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

#### Hydrant Utilities

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Hydrant Utilities Unit Total of \$93,615.

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

#### Animal Control

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Animal Control Unit Total of \$10,963.

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

#### Health Agencies

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Health Agencies Unit Total of \$4,375.

**Member Butler** seconded the motion. Six members were in favor; one (Smith) abstained.

**Vote: 6/0/1**

**Member Paquette** made a motion to remove one dollar (\$1) **Lines 44150.350.02 through 44150.350.06 and Line 44150.350.10.**

**Member Butler** seconded the motion. Six members were in favor; one (Smith) abstained.

**Vote: 6/0/1**

#### General Assistance

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the General Assistance Unit Total of \$8,500.

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

#### Elder Services

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Elder Services Unit Total of \$122,514.

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

#### Recreation

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Recreation Unit Total of \$163,858.

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

#### Care of Grounds

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Care of Grounds Unit Total of \$137,532.

**Member Butler** seconded the motion. Five members were in favor; two (Torosian/Cornish) were against. **Vote: 5/2/0**

#### Library

**Vice Chair Torosian** made a motion to reduce **Line 45500.560.00 Dues and Subscriptions** from \$775 to \$613.

**Member Smith** seconded the motion. Four members were in favor; three (Butler, Barker, Paquette) were against. **Vote: 4/3/0**

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the amended Library Unit Total of \$625,294.

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

#### Patriotic Purposes

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Patriotic Purposes Unit Total of \$4,150.

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

#### Cable Operations

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Cable Operations Unit Total of \$85,357.

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

#### Conservation

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Conservation Unit Total of \$12,480.

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

#### Long Term Debt Principle & Long Term Debt Interest

**Chair Barker** made a motion to accept the Long Term Debt Principle & Long Term Debt Interest Unit Total of \$93,650.

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

#### Minutes

All Minutes will be reviewed and approved at the next meeting.

**Vice Chair Torosian** made a motion to request the BoS reconsider buying down the tax rate.

**Member Smith** seconded the motion. Six members were in favor; one (Paquette) abstained.

**Vote: 6/0/1**

131 **Vice Chair Torosian** made a motion to adjourn.  
132 **Member Smith** seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 7/0/0**  
133  
134 Next Budget Committee Meeting: November 28, 2023  
135 On November 28, 2023, further budget adjustments will continue.  
136 The Atkinson Budget Committee Meeting adjourned at 9:18 p.m.