

TOWN OF ATKINSON  
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING  
Thursday, January 4, 2024

**Members Present**

**Others Present**

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

**Agenda:** Minutes, Budget Review

**Executive – Board of Selectmen**

**Vice Chair Torosian** made a motion to reduce **Line 41300.820.00 Mileage** from \$1,200 to \$500.

**Member Cornish** seconded the motion. Five members were in favor; two (Butler/Paquette) were not in favor. **Vote: 5/2/0**

**Elections and Registrations – Town Clerk**

No Comments

**Elections**

No Comments

**Financial Administration**

No Comments

**Tax Collecting**

No Comments

**Legal Services**

No Comments

**Personnel Administration**

No Comments

**Planning and Zoning**

No Comments

**Zoning and Appeals**

No Comments

General Government Buildings – Town Buildings

**Vice Chair Torosian** made a motion to reduce **Line 41940.430.00 Repairs and Maintenance Services** from \$90,000 to \$80,000.

**Member Cornish** seconded the motion. Five members were in favor; two (Butler/Paquette) were not in favor. **Vote: 5/2/0**

Cemeteries

No Comments

Insurance

No Comments

Police Department

No Comments

Ambulance

No Comments

Fire Department

**Member Smith** made a motion to reduce the following lines:

- **Line 42200.110.01 Fire Dept. Chief** from \$100,000 to \$95,000
- **Line 42200.225.00 Medicare** from \$8,359 to \$8,298
- **Line 42200.230.00 Retirement** from \$106,011 to \$104,362

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

**Vice Chair Torosian** made a motion to reduce **Line 42300.430.01 Fire Hydrant Water Rates** from \$93,615 to \$86,505.

**Member Cornish** seconded the motion.

**Chair Barker** stated that being a condo resident, this would take time and the motion should be made for Year 2025.

Both first and second motions were rescinded.

**Member Smith** asked **Member Paquette** to ask Administrator Apple to ask residents if they would be willing to pay for private hydrants.

Building Inspections

No Comments

Dispatch

**Member Smith** made a motion to reduce **Line 42990.390.00 Other Professional Services** from \$58,000 to \$53,900.

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

#### Public Works – Administration

**Vice Chair Torosian** made a motion to reduce **Line 43110.140.00 Overtime** from \$12,000 to \$10,000.

**Member Cornish** seconded the motion. Five members were in favor; two (Butler/Paquette) were not in favor). **Vote: 5/2/0**

#### Highways & Streets

No Comments

#### Street Lighting

No Comments

#### Recycling

No Comments

#### Solid Waste

No Comments

#### Animal Control

No Comments

#### Health Agencies

No Comments

#### General Assistance

No Comments

#### Elder Services

No Comments

#### Recreation

**Member Malo** made a motion to reduce **Line 45201.890.00 Contract Labor** from \$5,000 to \$4,000.

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

**Vote: 6/1/0**

#### Grounds Maintenance

**Member Butler** made a motion to increase **Line 45202.890.00 Contract Labor** from \$11,000 to \$21,000.

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

126

127 **Vice Chair Torosian** made a motion to reduce **Line 45202.390.00 Other Professional Services** from

128 \$92,000 to \$75,000.

129 **Member Cornish** seconded the motion. Three members were in favor; three (Barker, Butler,

130 Paquette) were not in favor; one member (Malo) abstained. **Vote: 3/3/1 Motion failed**

131

132 [Library](#)

133 **Vice Chair Torosian** made a motion to reduce **Line 45500.670.00 Materials of Trade** from \$39,350

134 to \$38,350.

135 **Member Malo** seconded the motion. Four members were in favor; three (Barker, Butler, Paquette)

136 were not in favor. **Vote: 4/3/0**

137

138 [Memorial Day](#)

139 No Comments

140

141 [Cable Operations](#)

142 No Comments

143

144 [Conservation](#)

145 No Comments

146

147 [Long Term Debt Principal and Long Term Debt Interest](#)

148 No Comments

149

150 [Warrant Article Changes – Citizens’ Petitions](#)

151 

- Board of Selectmen Salaries by petition

152 

- Purchase of 3-acre Lot with 4-Bedroom, 3-Bath on 20 Academy Avenue across from Town

153 Hall by petition

154

155 [Minutes of 12/19/2023](#)

156 **Chair Barker** made a motion to approve the Minutes as amended.

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

158

159 **Member Butler** made a motion to increase **Line 41300.820.00 Mileage** under Executive – Board of

160 Selectmen from \$500 to \$1200.

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

162

163 **Vice Chair Torosian** made a motion to adjourn.

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

165

166 Next Budget Committee Meeting: Thursday, January 9, 2024

167 On January 9, 2024, further reviews of the budget; on January 16, Warrant Article reviews.

168 The Atkinson Budget Committee Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.