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**TOWN OF ATKINSON
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, January 7, 2020**

Members Present

Bill Smith, Chair
Wendy Barker, Vice Chair (phone)
Ray Fournier
Peter Torosian
Bob Malo
Bob Worden

Others Present

Diane Herr, Outgoing Library Director
Kathy Watson, Interim Library Director
Tom Kelley, Library Trustees Director
David Cressman, Town Administrator
Paul Wainwright, Conservation Dir.
Russell Wolf, Technology Comm. Dir.

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Agenda: Draft Warrants, Preliminary Votes, Spreadsheet, Minutes

Conservation

Director Wainwright shared information regarding the Forest Maintenance Fund and the need for it. He said there is a weed problem in the Sawyer Town Forest. In order to preserve the majority of the forest, there is a barrier that needs to be eliminated which will slow down the more problematic weeds from destroying the forest. His plan is to use up to \$19,000 from the Forest Maintenance Fund.

Fire Department

Chair Smith made a motion to change **Line 42207.390.00** Professional Services from \$3500 to \$3385.
Member Worden seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 6/0/0**

Technology

Chair Smith made a motion to move \$5000 from **Line 41506.430.01** Hardware Maintenance to **Line 41506.740.01** New Projects. Member Worden seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 6/0/0**

Chair Smith asked for discussions on increasing **Line 41506.890.00** IT Services by \$2600 due to a bid. Members agreed to look at the contracts before voting. Member Malo said he will contact Mike for more information by next week.

Vice Chair Barker questioned the cost of purchasing some equipment. Chair Wolf explained some of the expenses.

Town Administration

Administrator Cressman stated that the new Assistant Town Administrator opted not to take the Health Insurance.

Chair Smith made a motion to put a \$1 placeholder on **Line 41302.210.00** Health Insurance. Member Torosian seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 6/0/0**

Street Lighting

Member Malo provided the committee with a listing of all the street lights in Atkinson. He is halfway through the list and found an approximate amount of \$4000 in savings.

Member Worden asked if the budget for Street Lighting should be changed or wait till a final decision has been made as to usage and savings.

Administrator Cressman said that once you consider removing lights various issues may arise.

Member Malo said he will speak with Jim Garrity regarding this subject.

Library

Director Herr had a concern about the default Health Care budget.

Chair Smith will adjust the default budget and welcomed any information Director Herr may submit.

Warrants

Chair Smith read through all the Warrant Articles.

Further discussions and voting will be considered next week.

Minutes

Member Torosian made a motion to approve the minutes of 12/17/2019 as amended. Chair Smith seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 6/0/0**

Chair Smith made a motion to adjourn. Member Torosian seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 6/0/0**

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