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**MINUTES OF THE  
BUDGET COMMITTEE**

**MEETING OF  
November 8, 2023**

7  
8

**01) OPEN MEETING**

9 The Municipal Budget Committee Meeting of Wednesday, November 8, 2023 was called to order  
10 at 7:01 PM at the Knightly Meeting Room.  
11

12  
13

**02) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

14 Chairman Boyer opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and introduction of members.  
15

16  
17

**03) INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS**

18  
19

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

20 Jeff Boyer, Chairman  
21 Steven Goddu  
22 Tanya Donnelly  
23 Donna Loranger  
24 Sean Lewis  
25 Brian Thornock

26  
27

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

28 Jon Stark

29  
30

**OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT:**

31 Councilor Bob Bryant, Town Council Representative  
32 Bernie Campbell, School Board Representative

33  
34

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

35 Chris Dillon, Town Manager  
36 Nicole McGee, Finance Director

37  
38

**01) CHAIRMAN COMMENTS**

39 Chairman Boyer stated that the purpose of this meeting was to continue the discussion in  
40 response to their questions. The votes will be taken next week. He stated that they might not be  
41 able to keep the increase percentage number in the Town Council's Budget because of inflation.

42  
43

**02) RECEIPT OF MINUTES AND CORRESPONDENCE**

44 Mr. Goddu stated that they had received the following correspondence from the Town:

- 45 • Town of Salem –  
i. Town of Salem, NH At-A-Glance Sheet as of 9/30/2023 (Requested)

1 ii. TITLE III TOWNS, CITIES, VILLAGE DISTRICTS, AND UNINCORPORATED PLACES  
2 Chapter 35 CAPITAL RESERVE FUNDS OF COUNTIES, TOWNS, DISTRICTS, AND  
3 WATER DEPARTMENTS (Requested)

4 iii. 2023 Press Release noting the new tax rates for 2023.  
5

6 **MOTION by Mr. Goddu to accept receipt of the correspondence.**

7 **SECOND by Mr. Lewis**

8 **VOTE: 8-0-0 in favor.**

9 **Motion passed unanimously.**  
10

11 Mr. Goddu stated that they had received the following correspondence from the School District:

12 • Salem School District /SAU57 –

13 i. Meeting minutes from October 14 Budget Review Meeting

14 ii. Meeting minutes from October 17 Public Hearing

15 iii. Meeting minutes from October 17 Regular/Planning Session

16 iv. Enrollment Report

17 v. School Nutrition Financial Report

18 vi. Operating Budget Financial Report  
19

20 **MOTION by Mr. Goddu to accept receipt of the correspondence.**

21 **SECOND by Mr. Lewis**

22 **VOTE: 8-0-0 in favor.**

23 **Motion passed unanimously.**  
24

### 25 **03) APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

26  
27 **MOTION by Mr. Goddu to approve the Budget Committee Meeting minutes from October**  
28 **25, 2023.**

29 **SECOND by Mr. Lewis**  
30

31 Mr. Goddu stated that on Page 3, Line 14 it should read “we are using an” anticipated rate.  
32

33 Mr. Lewis stated that he would be abstaining.  
34

35 **VOTE: 7-0-1 in favor.**

36 **Motion passed as amended with Mr. Lewis abstaining.**  
37

38 **MOTION by Mr. Goddu to approve the Budget Committee Meeting minutes from October**  
39 **26, 2023.**

40 **SECOND by Mr. Lewis**

41 **VOTE: 5-0-3 in favor.**

42 **Motion passed with Mr. Goddu, Mr. Lewis, and Mr. Campbell abstaining.**  
43

**04) 2024 TOWN BUDGET PRELIMINARY DISCUSSION**

1 Chairman Boyer stated that he had a question that he wanted to ask regarding the War Credits  
2 and Overlay. There was a higher actual number for 2023 versus what was the 2024 estimated  
3 number.  
4

5  
6 Ms. McGee stated that they used a figure based on historical usage. The 2023 figure was higher  
7 because they had a number of abatements that were resolved this year.  
8

9 Chairman Boyer asked for an explanation of what the Overlay was.  
10

11 Ms. McGee explained that it was money to cover abatements that were granted to people during  
12 the year.  
13

14 Mr. Goddu asked how much the war tax credit was and how much was for abatements.  
15

16 Ms. McGee gave the figure for war credits as roughly \$800,000.  
17

18 Mr. Goddu asked if the remaining amount was abatements.  
19

20 Ms. McGee answered that it was for abatements for commercial and residential properties.  
21

22 Mr. Goddu stated that they did not expect as many for next year.  
23

24 Ms. McGee stated that they did not but the deadline to file was March 31, 2024. Large abatement  
25 requests usually were filed on the last day.  
26

27 Mr. Goddu stated that there were commercial properties that were taxed at a higher valuation and  
28 granted abatements last week.  
29

30 Manager Dillon stated that the time when the revaluation occurred was not the best time for  
31 commercial properties. Some of the commercial properties filed abatements and went through  
32 the process. Those cases were resolved. The valuation then stays at the new number going  
33 forward so those cases would not come back until there was another property revaluation.  
34

35 Mr. Campbell stated that as they got to the end of the five-year cycle, the incentive to file for an  
36 abatement dropped. Even if the abatement application was successful, the value would just  
37 change with the revaluation the next year so filing did not change much.  
38

39 Mr. Goddu stated that was a great point.  
40

41 Chairman Boyer stated that he had just wanted to understand it better.  
42

43 Councilor Bryant asked if they had any questions regarding Revenues.  
44

1 Mr. Goddu stated that he felt that they should increase the Auto Permits to what they anticipated  
2 for the current year. He expected that they would have more people coming to Town with the  
3 Tuscan development and people still had to register their vehicles.

4  
5 Mr. Thornock asked if the actual numbers in the Budget Book were the August revenue  
6 numbers.

7  
8 Ms. McGee stated that Auto Permit revenues were posted daily so these numbers were from  
9 October.

10  
11 Mr. Thornock stated that they were on track to be close to \$8 million. He would not want to  
12 overestimate the number. People were buying cars. They were creating a surplus if they set the  
13 number too low.

14  
15 Mr. Lewis asked what the methodology for the revenue calculation was.

16  
17 Manager Dillon stated that he would not necessarily count on the \$7.5 million number for this  
18 year. Some months brought in more revenue than others for auto registrations. It did not  
19 necessarily have the same number each month.

20  
21 Councilor Bryant stated that he did not buy a new car every year. Each year the number went  
22 down for registering older cars. If they were short, then the number would have to be made up  
23 through property taxes.

24  
25 Mr. Lewis stated that he was uncomfortable tweaking the revenues because the Budget  
26 Committee had no sense of what the auto revenues would be. He did not think that the influx  
27 from the Tuscan would happen next year and would leave the estimate as is.

28  
29 Manager Dillon stated that the three-year weighted average was \$7,213,000.

30  
31 Councilor Bryant stated that they could not have it both ways about inflation. It was either  
32 affecting people buying things or it wasn't.

33  
34 Mr. Goddu stated that he felt that the estimate for the year would be reached, and he felt that  
35 keeping the number the same was a good idea.

36  
37 Councilor Bryant stated that the cars would all be priced differently next year, and they did not  
38 know what would happen in an inflationary year.

39  
40 Mr. Lewis asked if they could have an updated number for the auto permits.

41  
42 Mr. Campbell stated that he abstained from voting on revenues because they did not know what  
43 they would be. It impacted the projected tax rate, but not the actual revenues which would be  
44 determined when the tax rate was set. He did not believe that they should change revenues so he  
45 would abstain from voting on them. If the estimated tax was wrong and the actual tax rate was  
46 higher, voters would be upset with the Town. If the Budget Committee adjusted the revenues

1 upward and it was wrong then they, not the Town, would be responsible for the estimate being  
2 wrong. Mr. Campbell felt that the committee should focus on the appropriation side rather than  
3 the revenue side.

4  
5 Mr. Goddu stated that he did not disagree with Mr. Campbell's point.

6  
7 Councilor Bryant asked if there were any further questions about ambulance billing because  
8 there had been a question previously.

9  
10 Mr. Goddu stated that he had not read the information yet.

11  
12 Councilor Bryant stated that there had been other questions on interest and the wastewater  
13 treatment plant bond.

14  
15 Mr. Goddu asked about the bond proceeds being projected at \$1.3 million. They had received  
16 nothing.

17  
18 Ms. McGee stated that they did not receive anything. She had to show the Bond Anticipation  
19 Note cash that was received as a liability and then when it was bonded, that would show as a  
20 revenue. The Warrant Article approval had to be shown as a revenue. They would have the  
21 revenue when the bond happened, but the bond would not happen this year.

22  
23 Mr. Goddu stated that it was a wash.

24  
25 Ms. McGee answered that it was essentially yes. The bond revenue would probably not be  
26 recorded until 2025 though.

27  
28 Councilor Bryant started going through the individual budgets to see if there were any questions.  
29 He stated that the roof at the District Court was finished.

30  
31 **Depot Train Station**

32 Councilor Bryant stated that the building was split between the museum and Chamber and there  
33 was rent including some of the heat, electricity, and some of the utilities.

34  
35 Mr. Goddu stated that there was a discussion about security cameras at the building.

36  
37 Councilor Bryant stated that \$11,000 was removed from the Budget for them.

38  
39 Mr. Goddu asked if they had an inexpensive solution because there were concerns about safety  
40 there.

41  
42 Councilor Bryant stated maybe one camera with a better view.

43  
44 Mr. Goddu stated something because there was nothing and there were concerns about leaving  
45 there at night. A couple of people had approached him about their concerns.

1 Councilor Bryant stated that they could look into it.

2  
3 Mr. Goddu stated that there needed to be something inexpensive that they could do.

4  
5 Chairman Boyer asked if there was internet there.

6  
7 Ms. Loranger answered yes.

8  
9 **Finance**

10 Chairman Boyer asked about the Charter requirement to change auditors and if that also affected  
11 the School District.

12  
13 Mr. Campbell answered no.

14  
15 **Information Technology**

16 Mr. Goddu stated that he was not in favor of adding a new employee for this purpose. He felt  
17 that IT services should be contracted out. He will be looking to remove the position.

18  
19 Ms. Loranger asked why he believed it should be contracted out.

20  
21 Mr. Goddu stated that he believed that contractors would provide better service and more on top  
22 things than an employee. They could assign personnel only when they were needed. If they did  
23 not like the service provided, then it would be easier to replace the contractor than an employee.

24  
25 Mr. Lewis stated that they would still have IT contractors. Many contractors would not bid  
26 without an in-house IT person. He felt it would be good to have someone on site doing IT  
27 support. It might have helped either prevent or speed up the response to the ransomware attack.

28  
29 Ms. Donnelly stated that she was in favor of Mr. Goddu's proposal. She felt that they should  
30 have a help desk person and leave the strategizing to the contractor. It was a different schedule.  
31 She would reduce the salary to one more appropriate for the position. Outside contractors would  
32 be better at dealing with the larger issues and monitor the system from afar.

33  
34 Mr. Lewis asked for a brief primer on how the proposed position was structured.

35  
36 Manager Dillon stated that the proposal was a Chief Technology Officer. He had learned that  
37 Rockingham County had an IT Manager who managed the contract and did some support work.  
38 It was more of a hands-on position. It was an option to look at the way Ms. Donnelly was  
39 suggested.

40  
41 Chairman Boyer asked if the IT Manager salary would be half of the salary for the proposed  
42 position.

43  
44 Manager Dillon stated that they could explore it for final votes.

1 Chairman Boyer stated that he agreed with the idea of having a full-time person working with the  
2 contractors.

3  
4 **Planning**

5 Mr. Lewis asked if there was any discussion of adding personnel here in the near future.

6  
7 Councilor Bryant stated that the only reason they had added a position here recently was to have  
8 someone learn from the previous planner before his retirement.

9  
10 Manager Dillon stated that when the Assistant Planner was moved up to the Planner, they  
11 removed the Assistant Planner position. They had a code enforcement position, but they had not  
12 found someone for it. It was in the budget now.

13  
14 Mr. Lewis asked if there was any concern about having only one planner.

15  
16 Manager Dillon stated that the workload was being managed but it was a lot. He felt that the  
17 Town needed a number of positions, so they prioritized the biggest needs. They could use  
18 someone, but it was not something he was looking to add to the budget now.

19  
20 Ms. Loranger asked about the status of the Master Plan.

21  
22 Manager Dillon stated that the process was starting now.

23  
24 Chairman Boyer asked about the code enforcement position.

25  
26 Manager Dillon answered that the position was under Line 4092 - Temporary Pay because it was  
27 a part-time position.

28  
29 **Animal Control**

30 Mr. Thornock asked if they lost the Animal Control Officer because there was no pay here for  
31 the position.

32  
33 Manager Dillon stated that it was moved to the Police – Special Services Budget.

34  
35 **Fire – Administration**

36 Chairman Boyer asked if they were budgeting the pay amounts off the salaries from prior to the  
37 turnover here. He asked if they were using the final salary of the former Fire Chief.

38  
39 Ms. McGee stated that the 2024 budget was based on what Chief Best was expected to earn  
40 because it was prepared before he announced his retirement. She could not answer for the other  
41 salaries.

42 .  
43 **Winter Weather Operations**

44 Chairman Boyer asked if the funding for this was from the trust fund.

45  
46 Councilor Bryant answered no.

1 Chairman Boyer asked if that funding came as a Warrant Article.

2  
3 Manager Dillon stated that the Town Council may move a Warrant Article to put which would  
4 be voted on by the voters. This was spent first before they went to the trust fund. He was  
5 intending to put in a placeholder for a Trust Fund contribution and then see how the winter went.

6  
7 Chairman Boyer stated that they were overspent already.

8  
9 Manager Dillon stated that this budget was for next year. They may need to use money from the  
10 Trust Fund if the weather is bad before the end of this year.

11  
12 **Solid Waste**

13 Mr. Thornock stated that he had some questions about the rates for recycling.

14  
15 Manager Dillon stated that the recycling rates now go off the market rate.

16  
17 Mr. Thornock asked if they were charged \$75 per ton to the commercial haulers. He asked if  
18 they charged commercial haulers the rate that the Town was paying.

19  
20 Ms. McGee stated that they based the 2023 numbers on what they were paying in 2022 plus a 3.5  
21 times escalator. The rate was in two parts. Loading and hauling was a fixed price while there was  
22 a processing fee that was variable. For 2024 they increased the fees again because the 2023 rates  
23 were less than the actual cost.

24  
25 Mr. Thornock stated that they had lost money on taking residential haulers for the past year.

26  
27 Manager Dillon answered yes, the rate did not cover the full cost. In the past years there was a  
28 philosophy that it was all Salem residents regardless of who brought it to the Transfer Station.  
29 The backup included links to Board of Selectmen meetings where the philosophy was discussed.  
30 The philosophy had changed to make it a third, a third, and a third as the split.

31  
32 Mr. Thornock asked if that third was for the facility cost.

33  
34 Manager Dillon answered it was for the budget as a whole.

35  
36 Mr. Thornock asked for the percentage of the tonnage that was from commercial haulers versus  
37 directly from residents.

38  
39 Ms. McGee stated that Finance did not track that. She had the information in the response to the  
40 question that they had received but she did not have the total amount.

41  
42 Mr. Thornock stated that he thought he had the total amount. He had a problem with voting on a  
43 budget line for the Town that made someone else money. That was what appeared to be  
44 happening here. Mr. Thornock was concerned that they were incurring costs that they were not  
45 recovering which were to the benefit of the commercial haulers. They increased the price of the  
46 dump stickers by 33%. He asked if there was a corresponding increase in the hauler fees.



1 Ms. McGee stated that they did not anticipate the disposal cost tripling in one year. The costs  
2 changed monthly but the fees were set once a year.

3  
4 Mr. Thornock stated that the costs increased last year substantially from the time the fees were  
5 set to the time of the Deliberative Session.

6  
7 Chairman Boyer asked if some of that was locked in by contract.

8  
9 Ms. McGee stated that the hauling was, but the processing of contamination fluctuated by month  
10 so that price changed.

11  
12 Chairman Boyer asked about closing the gap between what the Town charged haulers and what  
13 the Town was paying for disposal.

14  
15 Ms. McGee answered yes. That was what they were trying to do for 2024.

16  
17 Chairman Boyer stated that Mr. Thornock not pleased with how much they closed the gap.

18  
19 Mr. Thornock stated that he was concerned about what he saw last year. He was not inclined to  
20 support recycling if they could not solidify the number for the disposal rate. Mr. Thornock asked  
21 if they were contractually required to take recycling from the haulers at a certain rate. It could be  
22 \$40 per ton that the taxpayers had to cover for the recycling from the commercial haulers. He  
23 was concerned about the figure given that they did know what it would end up as a rate.

24  
25 **Engineering**

26 Mr. Goddu asked about the \$100,000 increase under Line 4402 – Engineering Services.

27  
28 Councilor Bryant stated that it was for the Main Street culvert. The water flooded behind the Fire  
29 Station and Rite Aid. They were looking to get an easement and then do the engineering for a  
30 new culvert.

31  
32 **Recreational Facilities**

33 Chairman Boyer stated that he saw on the television that there was a large check that was  
34 received for Hedgehog Park.

35  
36 Manager Dillon stated that they were successful in getting an LWCF Grant to modify Hedgehog  
37 Park. The Town had not received the check yet. It was approved but they were looking to start  
38 work in 2024 once the money was received.

39  
40 Ms. Loranger asked about the Land and Water Conservation Funds and if the Federal  
41 Government was providing the money.

42  
43 Manager Dillon explained that the money came from oil leases that the Federal Government  
44 held. Some of the money received from those leases was then used to fund this program.

45  
46 Chairman Boyer asked for the name of the person who had been leading that effort.

1 Manager Dillon stated that was Jim Koczat.

2  
3 **Community Services**

4 Mr. Goddu asked about Salem Veterans Association and if the line was a donation of \$5,000.

5  
6 Councilor Bryant answered yes.

7  
8 Mr. Goddu asked who the Independence Day funds went to.

9  
10 Councilor Bryant stated that it was for the police and fire details.

11  
12 Mr. Goddu asked why those items were in the same budget.

13  
14 Councilor Bryant stated that the Veterans Association marked the stones for veterans as they  
15 passed and marking the graves around town.

16  
17 **Capital Improvements**

18 Mr. Goddu stated that he would be in favor of doing \$100,000 for document scanning instead of  
19 \$200,000.

20  
21 Mr. Lewis asked if they could get a rundown on what was covered in the amount that was in the  
22 budget.

23  
24 Manager Dillon stated that it was an estimate they received. It could be done in parts. The plan  
25 was to do an RFQ for everything. In theory that should have a better price by having a larger  
26 project. If they cut the funding, it might be more expensive for each piece.

27  
28 Mr. Lewis asked if the \$200,000 would be a one-time expenditure.

29  
30 Manager Dillon stated that he wanted to say yes. They found more documents than expected  
31 when they did the building files so the final price was higher than originally quoted. The intent  
32 was to do it as a one-time expense. They had cases of documents in storage. Some were required  
33 to be kept by law and some were kept for knowledge. This would allow them to have the  
34 documents electronically and reduce the need for extra storage space.

35  
36 Ms. Loranger stated that this was just project oriented. Once the scanning was done, it also  
37 reduced the search time that staff spent looking for these records. They would save money in the  
38 time spent. The Police Department had to keep all of their case records for ten years.

39  
40 Chairman Boyer had questions on the Fleet Program. His questions were on the water and sewer  
41 vehicles. The program budget was \$98,000 over the planned budget amount. He asked if they  
42 reduced the water and sewer budget then the revenue would need to match it.

43  
44 Ms. McGee stated that the water and sewer vehicles were not part of this line.

1 Chairman Boyer stated that those vehicles were in the program schedule. If they were going to  
2 follow the spirit of flatlining the program, then all of the vehicles should be included in the total.

3  
4 Councilor Bryant stated that the Budget number was \$20,000 less than the budget projection.

5  
6 Chairman Boyer stated that the water and sewer had vehicles. The Water Fund had two vehicles.  
7 There was one truck in the Sewer Fund. Adding those figures to the Fleet Program brought the  
8 total number over the projected number.

9  
10 Roy Sorenson, Municipal Services, stated that water and sewer vehicles would always be under  
11 the Water Fund and the Sewer Fund and not in the General Fund.

12  
13 Chairman Boyer cited the vehicles in the schedule which were being proposed for replacement in  
14 the Budget.

15  
16 Mr. Sorenson stated that those vehicles were taken out of the schedule. The vehicles in the water  
17 and sewer lines were listed individually.

18  
19 Chairman Boyer stated that in water there were two vehicles in the budget which were included  
20 in the Fleet Program. The sewer budget had a vehicle which was included in the schedule that he  
21 had. It was not supposed to be replaced until 2029.

22  
23 Mr. Sorenson stated that water and sewer vehicles had been put in the schedule when the  
24 Assistant Town Manager created it. Those vehicles were removed. They should look at the  
25 details in the Budget Book.

26  
27 Ms. McGee asked for the date of the document that Chairman Boyer was looking at.

28  
29 Chairman Boyer stated that they just got this on 10/26/23.

30  
31 Manager Dillon stated that was the original document that was used for year one of the program.

32  
33 Chairman Boyer stated that he had requested a copy of the Fleet Program document and if this  
34 was wrong then it led to another question.

35  
36 Mr. Lewis asked if the funding was separate for the water and sewer vehicles.

37  
38 Mr. Sorenson stated that vehicles assigned to the Water Division went under the Water Fund and  
39 sewer division vehicles went under the Sewer Fund because that's what they were used for. The  
40 original fleet plan included them. They had three vehicles die this year that had to be replaced.  
41 Those may have been in later years.

42  
43 Chairman Boyer stated that the document was wrong.

1 Manager Dillon stated that document was the original plan. Vehicles may have been planned but  
2 when it came time to budget they may shift based on what happened such as a truck blowing an  
3 engine. They could get updated information to the Budget Committee.

4  
5 Chairman Boyer stated that he understood that. He stated that the vehicles were still being  
6 funded.

7  
8 Councilor Bryant stated that they would get updated documents.

9  
10 Chairman Boyer stated that they were under budget in the Operating Budget but over when the  
11 other vehicles were considered.

12  
13 **Sewer – Debt Services**

14 Chairman Boyer stated that they budgeted \$5.3 million for the Bond Anticipation Note. He asked  
15 why, if they paid it off, they had interest payments in 2024.

16  
17 Ms. McGee stated that they would be rolling the BAN into 2024.

18  
19 Chairman Boyer asked how that impacted the budget.

20  
21 Ms. McGee stated that it would be shown on the balance sheets. She explained how it worked  
22 and that they could not count the revenue twice. Timing wise they had to roll it forward.

23  
24 **Sewer – Capital Projects**

25 Mr. Goddu asked about the truck purchase.

26  
27 Mr. Sorenson answered it was necessary. It was a frontline utility vehicle for the foreman. He  
28 asked if they had the backup information on the vehicle.

29  
30 Chairman Boyer answered no.

31  
32 Ms. Donnelly stated that she had it.

33  
34 Ms. McGee stated that if it was missing for some people, she could send the information over to  
35 the Budget Committee.

36  
37 Chairman Boyer stated that they needed to break them out on the updated fleet schedule. The  
38 spirit was that it would be a steady budget. This was a \$100,000 difference.

39  
40 Manager Dillon stated that the Capital Budget Fleet Maintenance Program was for leveling the  
41 purchase of vehicles on the tax rate.

42  
43 Councilor Bryant stated that it was the water and sewer users who paid for the water and sewer  
44 costs. The water and sewer division vehicles were not on the tax rate.

1 Mr. Sorenson stated that the plan was redesigned without the water and sewer vehicles. The goal  
2 was to level fund the impact on the tax rate. The number in the Budget was less than the number  
3 in the plan.

4  
5 Chairman Boyer stated that he agreed with that.

6  
7 Mr. Thornock stated that he understood that they were purchasing a vehicle that was originally in  
8 year six. He asked if something else would be purchased then or if the year six projection would  
9 change.

10  
11 Mr. Sorenson stated that they had two vehicles that blew an engine and they had to be replaced  
12 this year. Things happened which changed the plan for which vehicles were replaced.

13  
14 Mr. Thornock asked if the level cost was based off of those vehicles being replaced and if the  
15 amount changed because of that.

16  
17 Mr. Sorenson stated that the sewer vehicle was fifteen years old. The water vehicle was past its  
18 useful life as well.

19  
20 Councilor Bryant asked if they could get a copy of the Fleet Program to everyone. Water and  
21 Sewer Fund vehicles were separate. The Fleet Program was for the General Fund vehicles.

22  
23 Mr. Goddu stated that there was a misconception that the vehicles were included in this when  
24 they were not.

25  
26 **Water - Operations**

27 Mr. Goddu asked about Line 4497 – Other Utilities

28  
29 Ms. McGee stated that it was the Water Fund’s portion of the GLSD bill.

30  
31 Chairman Boyer asked about the pump that was being replaced.

32  
33 Mr. Sorenson stated that it was the raw water station. There were three pumps in there that sent  
34 the water to the Treatment Plant.

35  
36 **Water – Buildings**

37 Chairman Boyer asked about the \$8,000 difference between the boiler quote and the budget  
38 figure.

39  
40 Councilor Bryant asked if the boiler quote came in less than expected.

41  
42 Mr. Sorenson stated that it was an estimate.

43  
44 Councilor Bryant stated that there might be some other costs with the installation.

1 Mr. Sorenson stated that they would have to bid it either way. He would err on the side of  
2 caution and use the budget number.

3  
4 Mr. Goddu asked about the water treatment analysis.

5  
6 Mr. Sorenson stated that it was to address potential issues with the water treatment process.

7  
8 Ms. Loranger stated that the information on the vehicles was on the last pages of the book.

9  
10 **05) TOWN COUNCIL REPORT**

11 Councilor Bryant stated no update.

12  
13 **06) SCHOOL BOARD REPORT**

14 Mr. Campbell stated that the School Board adopted a budget last week. He wanted to know how  
15 many people wanted binders. Everyone wanted a binder. The Woodbury Project remained on  
16 schedule. The work on the back side of the school continued. They had reached a tentative  
17 agreement with the bargaining unit for the administrative assistants and secretaries. They were  
18 still in negotiations with the bargaining unit for the aides. There was a lot of good feedback  
19 received from the Veterans program at the Woodbury.

20  
21 Mr. Goddu asked how much the budget was reduced.

22  
23 Mr. Campbell stated that it was somewhere around 3.5% for the increase. They had a new  
24 vendor for transportation after having gone out to bid. There were significant increases in  
25 transportation and health insurance. Utility costs were also increasing.

26  
27 Chairman Boyer commented that 3.5% seemed like a reasonable figure.

28  
29 Mr. Campbell stated that there were two CBAs that were outside of that increase and there was  
30 still discussion about doing the field at Grant Field.

31  
32 Chairman Boyer asked about the concessions stand.

33  
34 Mr. Campbell stated that was fully funded and they were moving forward on the project.

35  
36 Chairman Boyer stated that the next meeting would be next week on Wednesday the 15<sup>th</sup> and it  
37 was a public hearing.

38  
39 **MOTION by Councilor Bryant to adjourn the meeting at 9:12PM.**

40 **SECOND by Ms. Loranger**

41 **VOTE: 8-0-0 in favor.**

42 **Motion passed unanimously.**

43  
44 Minutes recorded by:

Jeremiah Lamson

45 Approved:

Budget Committee

46 Date:

November 15, 2023