

**Town of Sunderland Selectboard Special Meeting  
Tuesday Jan 21, 2024, at 10:00 AM**

Members in Attendance:

Dixie Zens - Attending via phone

Todd Lawrence

Andrew McKeever

Marty Nadler

Bruce Mattison

Others in Attendance:

Town Clerk & Treasurer Susan Whitney

Rick Timmerman

1. Call to Order by Marty Nadler at 10:00 am.

2. Introduction of Board Members: Marty Nadler, Todd Lawrence, Andrew McKeever, Bruce Mattison

3. Public Comment:

- Rick Timmerman inquired if Sheriff budget will remain adjusted in proposed budget
  - Marty informed that the Sheriff budget has been adjusted to show their new rate

4. Review and Approve the FY25/26 Budget

- Discussion on adjusting audit line item and plan to fund future external audits

Motion to make adjustment to audit line item from \$9750 to \$6000

Mover: Andrew

2nd: Bruce

Result: Pass

Motion to accept both proposed FY25/26 Town Budget and 2025 Town Meeting Warning

Mover: Bruce

2nd: Andrew

Result: Pass

5. Review and approve the Warning for Annual Meeting for March 2025

- Discussion on Town Moderator position
- Discussion on Town Meeting Format

6. Old Business-

- Discussion on status of town employee personnel policy revisions
  - Marty has been working on sections:
    - Sexual Harassment

- Conflict of interest policy
- Harassment policy in the future

#### 7. New Business-

- Discussion on future town retirement plans
- Bruce gave update on Town Highway Equipment status
  - Adjustor has looked at damaged plow truck and will provide update
  - Multiple equipment issues with the other current town trucks
  - Possible used dump/plow truck available in Connecticut for \$18000
    - Plan would be to have truck as emergency backup to get through winter

Motion to approve Marc Johnston inspecting and purchasing a used dump truck to supplement town equipment experiencing maintenance issues

Mover: Bruce

2nd: Andrew

Result: Pass

#### 8. Review of Correspondence/Signing of warrants.

- Letter from Dept of Taxes
- Brattleboro Development Corp with various events
- Postcard from VLCT on grant basic 02/04 10am
- Arlington Fire Department on 2024 Fire Calls
- Arlington Area Childcare level funding request \$700 for town meeting warning
- Taconic and Green Facilities agreement to use school for town meeting
- Sample postcard for Town Meeting warning
- Susan provided update on new Open Meeting law and incorporating new hearing on warning items at 02/24 Selectboard meeting prior to Town Meeting
  - Needs to posted and warned 10 days prior to Hearing
- Application review for Board Secretary
  - Will invite candidate to 01/27 meeting

Motion for Bruce to sign excess weight permit

Mover: Andrew

2nd: Todd

Result: Pass

- Discussion on setting an amount limit on prior voted item for possible used dump truck purchase

Motion to authorize Marc Johnston to agree to purchase a used dump truck up to \$18000 and authorized for additional funds through Highway liaison if needed

Mover: Andrew

2nd: Todd

Result: Pass

9. Next Business Meeting for the Sunderland Selectboard will be January 27, 2025, 7PM

10. Adjourn- 11:16am

Mover: Andrew

2nd: Bruce

Result: Pass