



TOWN OF WARNER BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING

Location: Warner Town Hall
Budget Committee Meeting

All Budget Committee meetings are scheduled for 7:00 pm,
unless otherwise noted on Agenda postings

DRAFT Budget Committee Meeting Minutes- January 25, 2024

Open the Meeting and Roll Call

- Chair Cutting opened the meeting at [time] PM.
 - *Present:* Michael Cutting (Chair), Allan Brown, Ray Martin, James Sherman, Rick Bixby, Harold Blanchette, Michelle Kendrick, Robert Blake
 - *Also Present:* Georgia Flanders, Harry Seidel, Faith Minton, Clyde Carson, Butch Burbank, Judy Newman-Rogers

Final Review- 2024 Operational Budget

- Public hearing scheduled for February 1 and continued February 6
- Changes by Select Board
 - Tax Collector Wages
 - Decreased to \$30,000 stipend
 - No longer a full-time position
 - Michelle Kendrick made a motion to reduce the budget for tax collector wages to \$30,000. Harold Blanchette seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
 - New Line Item: Building Permit and Zoning Compliance Certificate Review
 - Line item: \$19,200
 - Covers the wages for a clerical position within the town offices to review building permits and zoning compliance
 - Ray Martin made a motion to create the line item for Building Permit and Zoning Compliance Certificate Review at a value of \$19,200. Michelle Kendrick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
- Total Budget: \$4,565,188.65
 - 4.476% increase over 2023's budget

Final Review- 2024 Revenue

- Cell tower revenue changes due to 99-year easement
 - \$600,000 to be received in 2024
 - Will be accepted as unanticipated revenue after a public hearing and added to the general fund
 - Money cannot be earmarked for use until it is received

- Rent of town property for cell tower removed in light of easement
- Account info corrected in Land Use section
- Estimated Revenue: \$1,209,650
 - Significantly decreased from 2023
 - Around \$300,000 less revenue
 - Lack of ARPA funds and other unexpected revenue (grants, proceeds from property sales, etc.)
- Effect on tax rate
 - Around \$550,000 needed to maintain the same tax rate (\$10.28) from the previous year
 - This would result in a significant increase the following year

Final Review- Capital Budget

- Employee Expendable Trust Fund Article removed
- No change to Contingency Fund article
- \$115,000 Revaluation Article
 - Possible use of existing funds to cover this rather than raising and appropriation
 - Helps to compensate for decreased revenue
 - Cost of revaluation has increased significantly in recent years

2024 Warner Village Water District

- Operational Budget
 - Total: \$506,879
- Revenue
 - No increase to amount raised via taxes
 - Higher pay for solar produced in 2023
 - Potential for greater savings after loan is paid off
 - Plant is self-sufficient five months of the year
 - Revenue will decrease as rates decrease in next six months
- Capital Budget
 - No capital budget for 2024
 - Warrant articles for budget approval, officers, etc.

Adjourn

- The meeting was adjourned at 8:26 PM. Ray Martin made the motion to adjourn, and James Sherman seconded the motion.
- The Select Board recessed the