

OFFICE OF SELECTMEN

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SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES February 5, 2024

Chairman Pitt called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Selectman Paight was present. Also in attendance were Ellen Smith, Town Administrator, and the following members of the Advisory Budget Committee (ABC) Jeff Miller, Glenn Parker and Michael Desabrais.

The committee asked if there was a governing document for their group. Chairman Pitt explained that they are not an official Budget Committee instead function in an advisory capacity. The group discussed how the process was done in the past. The selectmen will strive to provide a first draft budget for 2025 by mid-December and will provide periodic monthly expenditure reports.

The group discussed the 2024 proposed budget and explanations were provided for major increases. The budget being presented at the hearing, before petition warrant articles, when factoring in estimated revenues, projects that the town tax rate will decrease by \$.03. The library petition will increase the rate by \$1.32 and the Bell Tower petition will increase the town tax rate by \$0.25.

The ABC would like to meet with Chief Byam to better understand the increases in the police department. Mike left the meeting at 2:00 pm and the discussion shifted to the school district budget.

There was a brief discussion about the library addition and renovation project.

Selectman Paight moved and Chairman Pitt seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:30 pm. The vote to adjourn was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen Smith, Town Administrator