

Town of Edgecomb
Select Board

December 27, 2023, 6:00 PM

In attendance: Mike Smith, Michael Maxim. Janet Blevins, Barbara Brennan, Budget Committee

1. Approval of minutes: Michael motioned to approve the minutes from the 12/9 meeting. Mike seconded. Approved 2/0
2. Warrants: the payroll warrants were submitted before Lynn went away; other warrants will be submitted at the next meeting on Jan. 9.
3. New Business
 - A. SB workshop - (Budget, Town Report) is scheduled for Jan. 16 at 5:00; public is invited.
 - B. 2024 DOT roadwork schedule: we will invite DOT and Holly Stover to an upcoming meeting; interested residents are invited
 - C. Budget Committee
 - Mike summed up the budget process with the School Committee last year as “a struggle” and called for “less controversy and more congeniality” this year in their discussions with the BC and SB. He said there is need to consider the taxpayer in all negotiations. Mike emphasized that the quality of education for EES children will not be compromised.
 - Mike and the BC discussed areas of possible increases this year, including school accounting services, ambulance service, county taxes, repairs to fire station
 - Mike wants to focus on bringing the Town Hall into the 21st Century with a building renovation project and also by investing in improved personnel stipends and benefits
 - Re-valuation of property (costing \$139,000) is a consideration in this year’s budget
 - Is the teacher contract up for negotiation this year?
 - Jack Brennan asked the SB if there is a mandate this year for the departments to not exceed a certain cap. Cost of living is 4.2%; suggestion is to keep department increases below 5%
 - Town Meeting will be in person this year.
 - Jack Brennan handed out a schedule of department meetings with the BC covering the next several months.
 - Jack requested that all Social Service requests be put directly into his box. New requests need signatures and agencies with new requests should contact Claudia Coffin for guidelines.

4. Ongoing Business

- A. A strong storm in mid-December caused wide spread tree damage and power outages, but the new culverts on SHF Rd held up well.
- B. Office technology update: tabled until next meeting
- C. Ambulance service update: Roy Potter and the CLC Ambulance Service met with the SB to discuss ways to maximize communication. Further discussion tabled until Lynn Norgang returns.

5. Public Comment

- 6. Next meeting topics: Ambulance Service; TH technology update
- 7. Next meeting - January 9, 2024
- 8. Adjourn 6:49