

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved with changes: \_\_\_\_\_  
Unapproved: \_\_\_\_\_

**Effingham Budget Committee Minutes**  
**68 School Street, Effingham**  
**November 19, 2019**

**Members Present:** Dave Strauss (chair), Theresa Swanick, Chuck Fuller (selectmen's rep), Tim Eldridge, & Jory Augenti.

**Members Absent:** Leo Racine (vice chair), Tom Hart.

**Others Present:** Nate Fogg, John Meisner (selectman), Mike Cahalane (selectman)

The meeting was called to order at 6:40pm.

**Minutes**

The Budget Committee (BC) reviewed the minutes from the November 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Several minor errors were corrected.

**A motion was made by Tim Eldridge to approve the November 12<sup>th</sup> minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Theresa Swanick. The vote was 5-0 in favor of the motion.**

**Budget Reviews**

Budgets approved to date will increase the overall town budget by \$7,133.

**4313 Bridges – presented by Board of Selectmen (BoS)**

Current budget \$1. Budget request \$1.

**Dave Strauss made a motion to approve the budget as requested. Theresa Swanick seconded the motion.**

Mike Cahalane noted that when the bridge repairs are completed, the fund needs to be replenished to keep the bridges in good condition.

**Dave Strauss moved his previous motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Eldridge- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Augenti- Yea.**

**4323 Solid Waste Collection – presented by BoS**

Current budget \$67,100. Budget request \$83,430.

**Tim Eldridge made a motion to approve the budget as requested. Dave Strauss seconded the motion.**

The cost of the compactor maintenance has risen this year. Part of this rising cost has been the lack of preventative maintenance over previous years. The BoS have entered into a maintenance contract to ensure preventative maintenance is completed to try and keep compactor costs from increasing. The compactors should last 20 or more years with proper maintenance. Salaries

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have increased to try to bring the four employees in line with other similar positions. The Budget Committee expected a salary increase due to additional manpower needed for the new pay for disposal policy.

The Budget Committee would like the mileage to have a separate line next year similar to other budgets.

The Transfer Station is currently open on Wed, Sat, & Sun. The BoS do not believe that cutting back days or hours to control costs is a good idea. They have started collecting fees for certain materials brought to the Transfer Station. The intent is to bring in revenue to offset equipment costs and maintenance. Material entering the transfer station must be more closely monitored to ensure that fees are paid.

Transfer Station budget has increased this year. The Solid Waste Disposal fees are decreasing, which offset a portion of the increase.

**Dave Strauss moved the previous motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Eldridge- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Augenti- Yea.**

**4324 Solid Waste Disposal presented by the BoS**  
Current budget \$89,000. Budget request \$84,000.

**Dave Strauss made a motion to approve the budget as requested. Tim Eldridge seconded the motion.**

Debated the savings of disposal containers from the pay for disposal policy. It was expected to have a large decrease, but the plan is just starting, and we need more time to see the true effect, so a moderate decrease was used. To date we have 42 containers shipped out.

Glass hauling fees were not charged in this year hauling and the estimated fee is \$220 per haul. We budgeted as if they are going to charge us this year. This was one of the reasons for the increase in "Other containers".

Waste mgmt. per contract increases charges 2.5% a year and based on the overall budget this 2.5% was noted added this year (about \$2k).

**Dave Strauss moved the previous motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Eldridge- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Augenti- Yea.**

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**4325 Solid Waste Cleanup presented by the BoS**

Current budget \$15,000. Budget request \$7,000.

**Dave Strauss made a motion to approve the budget as requested. Tim Eldridge seconded the motion.**

Budget down because of reduced monitoring due to no 1,000-foot radius testing required like last year. Full testing will be required again in 4 years, so the BOS/budget is looking at setting up a trust fund next year to minimize the tax impact. The listed PFAS test is at the transfer station site only.

**Dave Strauss moved the previous motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Eldridge- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Augenti- Yea.**

**4153 Legal presented by the BoS**

Current budget \$30,000/ Budget request \$30,000.

**Dave Strauss made a motion to approve the budget as requested. Theresa Swanick seconded the motion.**

Unwise to cut the budget and leave themselves short.

**Dave Strauss moved the previous motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Eldridge- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Augenti- Yea.**

**4195 Cemeteries presented by the BoS**

Current budget \$2,500. Budget request \$1,000.

**Dave Strauss made a motion to approve the budget as requested. Theresa Swanick seconded the motion.**

The new cemetery maintenance contract is less than the current contract, however the entirety of the cemetery is not currently being maintained as required. Increase the previous budget amount and require full cemetery to be maintained as in previous years. Tree cutting and stumping will likely be required.

**Dave Strauss made a motion to increase Cemeteries line request by \$1,000. Theresa Swanick seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Eldridge- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Augenti- Yea.**

**Dave Strauss amended his original motion to \$2,000. Theresa Swanick seconded the original motion as amended. The vote was unanimous in favor. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Eldridge- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Augenti- Yea.**

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**4197 Advertising & Dues presented by the BoS**

Current budget \$3,000. Budget request \$3,000.

**Tim Eldridge made a motion to approve the budget as requested. Theresa Swanick seconded the motion.**

The dues included New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA) membership.

**Dave Strauss moved the previous motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Eldridge- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Augenti- Yea.**

**4442 General Assistance presented by the BoS**

Current budget \$12,000. Budget request \$12,000.

**Tim Eldridge made a motion to approve the budget as requested. Dave Strauss seconded the motion.**

The surplus from previous years has been reduced.

**Dave Strauss moved the previous motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Eldridge- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Augenti- Yea.**

**4520 Parks & Recreation presented by the BoS**

Current budget \$20,000. Budget request \$10,000.

**Tim Eldridge made a motion to approve the budget as requested. Dave Strauss seconded the motion.**

The previous years budget had paid for 2 years of a Parks & Recreation contract with Ossipee. The consensus was to continue with the contract. Families are being asked for more money to participate in many programs. The BoS from Effingham and Ossipee will meet in the coming year to assess program wants and needs.

**Dave Strauss moved the previous motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Eldridge- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Augenti- Yea.**

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**4583 Patriotic Purposes presented by the BoS**

Current budget \$700. Budget request \$930.

**Dave Strauss made a motion to approve the budget as requested. Tim Eldridge seconded the motion.**

The increase will cover the cemetery flags and labor costs to put out the flags.

**Dave Strauss moved the previous motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Eldridge- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Augenti- Yea.**

**4711 Debt Service presented by the BoS**

Current budget \$1. Budget request \$1.

**Dave Strauss made a motion to approve the budget as requested. Tim Eldridge seconded the motion.**

Bonding is currently available to the town. The town continues to address GASB deficiencies and come into GASB compliance, however financing can be obtained without GASB compliance.

**Dave Strauss moved the previous motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Eldridge- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Augenti- Yea.**

**4723 Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) Interest presented by the BoS**

Current budget \$1. Budget request \$1.

**Dave Strauss made a motion to approve the budget as requested. Tim Eldridge seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. Roll call vote: Strauss- Yea, Eldridge- Yea, Fuller- Yea, Swanick- Yea, Augenti- Yea.**

**Other Business**

Non-Profits information has been distributed by email. Paper copies are available at town hall for anyone who would like a copy.

These requests will be reviewed with the BoS at the next Budget Committee meeting on November 26<sup>th</sup>. The total amount of the requests is \$38,000.

New Non-Profit requests must be approved through a warrant article.

Review the 11/15/19 Budget to Actual handout and email Dave Strauss (not entire committee) if you have any questions.

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**Next Meeting Dates**

The Budget Committee has budget review meetings set for November 26, and December 3 & 10. Meetings are at 6:30pm.

**Adjournment**

**A motion was made by Tim Eldridge to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dave Strauss. The vote was unanimous in favor.**

The meeting adjourned at 8:20pm.