

TOWN OF ALLENSTOWN  
Budget Committee  
Allenstown, New Hampshire 03275

Minutes of Workshop  
October 11, 2012

**Call to Order.**

The Allenstown Budget Committee Meeting for October 11, 2012 was called to order by the Chair at 6:15p.m.

**Roll Call.**

Present on the Board: Larry Anderson, Dave Coolidge, Carol Merrill, Robin Richards, Mike Frascanella, Jeff Gryval, Dave Eaton, Carl Caporale, Roger LaFleur and Penny Touchette.

Tom Gilligan – Unexcused  
Lisa Komm & Jerry McKenney- excused

**Others Present.**

Residents of Allenstown:

Others Present:

Other Public Officials:

Allenstown Staff: Cyndi Hetu; Minutes Clerk and Shaun Mulholland; APD.

**Approve Minutes**

Motion. Mr. Anderson made a motion to accept the minutes of August 9, 2012.

Mr. LaFleur asked if this meeting was a workshop because if it was they would not be making motions. Mr. Caporale stated that they had discussed this meeting being a workshop because they will not be approving the budgets just reviewing them. It was determined to continue the meeting on as a workshop.

Mr. Caporale stated that the Motion fails because of lack of second.

## **Review and Discuss Highway Budget**

Mr. Caporale read Mr. McKenney's questions regarding the Highway Budget that he had emailed in. Mr. Caporale stated that Mr. McKenney wanted to know if they could pick up trash all in one day instead of two days to save money as they have done on a few holidays or pick up trash every other week to save money and wear and tear on the vehicle.

Mr. Gryval stated that there are issues with the timing of doing it all on one day as far as getting back and forward from Costella. He further explained that they have also incurred some overtime when they have done it on just one day. Mr. Gryval stated that it is very difficult to get to Penacook and back in one day but that the Road Agent could better answer these questions.

Mr. LaFleur asked if the Select Board had discussed stopping curbside pickup. Mr. Gryval stated that they have not discussed stopping curbside pickup. Mr. Coolidge asked if over two-thirds of the residents live within 3 miles of the transfer station, why they still have curbside pickup. Mr. Gryval stated that is what the residents wanted.

Mr. Coolidge also asked when they started curbside pickup. Mr. Gryval that they have had the service since he moved into town 23 years ago but that he doesn't know when it started and will find that out for him. He also explained that when looking at the recycling program they did consider whether or not to stop the curbside pickup and determined that they would not save the town any money by doing away with the service. He stated that you still need the packer, an employee at the dump and have him there more hours so the manpower would be increased.

Mr. LaFleur asked if they were going to stick to this particular budget or go by people's questions. Mr. Caporale stated that they were discussing this budget because they were trying to get through Mr. McKenney's questions. Mrs. Touchette stated that they could go by the questions people have or they could stay on Highway Department Budget if they wanted.

Mr. LaFleur expressed concern with the Highway Department cutting the budget for Winter Sand down by \$2,500. Mr. Anderson stated that he had asked the Road Agent as well and that he could explain it. Mr. Richardson asked that Mr. Anderson explain the reason the Road Agent determined to cut that budget line item. Mrs. Touchette explained that in the past they have had people donate sand from their pits but they do not know that that is the case now. Mr. LaFleur stated that anything that is coming to the town that is of a significant amount has to be reported. Mrs. Touchette stated that this is a good question to have the Road Agent come in and answer.

Mrs. Merrill stated that she is interested in knowing what the small equipment purchase is for. She also stated that she is wondering what the \$3,681 for prisoners is for. Mr. Gryval stated that is for the cost of food. He explained that the stipulation is that they pay for the cost of meals for them. Mrs. Touchette stated that that is cheap labor for the work that they do which includes work at the Police Department, Sewer Department, Town Hall and the Library.

Mrs. Touchette asked if every department has a budget line item for this. Chief Mulholland explained that most of the work they do is for the Highway Department and if they he has to pay for meals, it comes out of his supplies line.

Mr. LaFleur asked Mr. Gryval when they started transferring moneys through a line that was not approved by the voters first. He explained that there is a line item for prisoner help that was not voted on. Mr. Gryval explained that it is a need of the town and the Select Board has the authority to move the money if they need to do so. Chief Mulholland stated that there is no such statute of an approved account and that voters don't approve of that. Mr. Richardson stated that Mr. LaFleur may have a valid point but that has nothing to do with the budget and it may be better answered at the Select Board meeting on Monday.

Mr. Coolidge asked about the line item for street painting and asked where that is for and if it's only for downtown. Mr. Gryval stated that that is for areas where it is required that they paint for intersections and that the town does not stripe their roads.

Mr. Anderson asked about the prisoner help line item being under the expenses but not on the overall budget. Mr. LaFleur asked about item account 431-10-460 also having a line item number under the expenditure report but not on the budget. Mr. Gryval stated that he does not know and will have to ask about that.

Mr. LaFleur also asked that if these expenditures in those lines, will that increase the bottom line and does the Select Board need to review those issues with the department heads and resubmit it back to the Budget Committee. Mr. Richards stated that on the footnotes page, it gives an explanation of what the characters stand for and that it explains that certain lines were not part of the original budget but created to segregate costs.

Mr. Eaton explained to Mrs. Merrill that there is a footnote for the small equipment that they purchased a crack sealer and compressor. Mrs. Merrill stated that her question was more what the Road Agent plans on spending the money on for the 2013 budget.

Mrs. Touchette asked Mr. Gryval if they have a lot of problems with beavers because she sees that there is \$150 budgeted for it and if that will be enough. Mr. Gryval stated that they have a gentleman come in and remove the beavers. He also stated that the Road Agent set that amount for the line item and that they could ask Mr. Pelissier more about it.

Mr. LaFleur asked what the plans are for paving and road construction. Mr. Gryval stated that they have a list of roads that need work done and are doing them according to priority. He stated that they are going to do the worst ones done first and do the best they can with the money they have to do it.

Mr. Caporale asked Mr. Gryval on behalf of Mr. McKenney about the two raises being proposed as far as merit raises and cost of living raises and couldn't they just do performance raises. Mr. Anderson also asked about when the merit raises were going to begin. Mr. Gryval stated that they will be starting the merit raises in 2013.

Mr. Gryval further explained to the Budget Committee the issues they are having with losing a lot of employees because of a low pay rate. He stated that they had determined that the merit raises and cost of living raises would help retain the employees they have and save them the cost of losing them.

Mr. LaFleur asked which raise is in each department head's budget. Mr. Gryval stated that the raises in each department head's budget is the COLA raise which is budgeted for 3% to begin on July 2013. Mr. LaFleur also asked which line item in the Personnel Budget shows the \$15,000 increase for the merit raise. Mr. Gryval stated that there is a separate merit raise line for that increase.

Mr. LaFleur asked Mr. Gryval how they are going to justify the \$70,000 on paving and road reconstruction and explained that is why he is asking about what roads are going to be repaired and how this number came about. Mr. Richardson stated that they are not going to hold the Road Agent to particular roads but to get a general idea of the roads he plans on repairing and what needs to be done to them.

Mrs. Merrill stated that they should fine out this information and that she would also like to see the bids for the extra work that they are doing. She explained that the Select Board has determined to do \$25,000 more work and that she wants to see the bids for the work. Mr. Caporale explained that Mrs. McKenney had brought up concerns about doing extra work to the Town Hall and the cost of \$25,000 for it. He explained that \$25,000 was put aside last year and was listed on the budget as Capital Outlay.

Mr. Gryval stated that the quotes they got are all public information. He explained that Mr. Apple and himself came back to the Budget Committee last year and asked them to put it back in the budget. He explained that they have gotten a quote for two-thirds of the amount they were allotted.

Mrs. Touchette explained that a lot of towns will give copies of whatever proposals there are when they do the budgets. Mr. Caporale stated that they should ask the department heads to submit proposals for work and/or purchases that need to be done for the committee to review.

## **Police Department Budget**

Mr. Caporale asked if they were going to ask the Chief questions tonight or not as this is a workshop. Chief Mulholland stated that he doesn't mind answering questions since he is here.

Mrs. Merrill how many hours does the prosecutor work. Chief Mulholland stated that she works about 50 hours a week but never less than 40 hours a week. He also stated that she is salary based pay.

Mr. Caporale asked Chief Mulholland if they are still waiting on the final dispatch numbers. Chief Mulholland has explained that they have to wait for the County Commissioners to approve the budget but they are proposing a 6% increase. He also explained that he does not know how much usage Allenstown is responsible for until those numbers come in. Mr. Caporale asked Chief Mulholland if the usage amount was to come in a lot higher, would he be able to cover it. Chief Mulholland stated that they will not be able to cover it if there is an increase.

Chief Mulholland also explained that there is no increase for fuel in his budget but that there will probably be an increase for that. He stated that overtime also always runs over but he had to cut the overtime budget as well. Mr. Caporale asked if these cuts affect Halloween and the Old Home Day Parade for 2013. Chief Mulholland stated that these planned items will be affected and that it is difficult for them to budget for the unplanned items. He further explained some unplanned items that could affect the budget.

Mrs. Touchette asked Chief Mulholland if they decreased the training budget. Chief Mulholland stated that that line item has increased because the State is not paying for training as they used to. He explained that he will try to get training for free whenever they can and is sending employees out of state to save costs.

Mr. LaFleur asked about dispatch being roughly about \$26,658 in 2011 and if he anticipates that going down. Chief Mulholland stated that this year it is down to about \$24,000 because Boscawen signed up. He also explained that there are some rumors about Pembroke leaving which would mean they would have a larger piece of the pie and therefore raise the cost back up.

Mr. LaFleur asked about a ballot question in 2011 asking the Select Board to look into a more feasible way to addressing prosecutorial services. Mr. Gryval stated that he would not get into it tonight but that if he wanted to go to the Select Board meeting on Monday they could discuss it then.

Mr. LaFleur stated that the prosecutorial services are a large portion of the budget and the town's portion of the budget and that it is voted on by the residents as a whole and asked for further explanation of his initial question. Mr. Gryval stated that they were given the directive by the

people to explore other options and it was determined that they the most economical way to providing the service and that they can request to have the details of the decision forwarded to them.

Mr. Caporale asked if the cruiser on the line item was to purchase outright. Chief Mulholland stated that that is a leased item. Mr. Caporale asked Chief Mulholland if the \$34,000 is one vehicle or multiple vehicles. Chief Mulholland stated that is to cover three leases that are incorporated in that money.

Mrs. Touchette asked if they are getting a new vehicle next year and if there is enough money to outfit the vehicle. Chief Mulholland stated that they are getting a new vehicle next year and that there is enough money for outfitting it. He further explained that the money for outfitting used to come out of the Capital Reserves fund but they haven't touched that for a few years.

Mrs. Merrill asked about the Soberizing Checkpoint and if the town is paying for that. Chief Mulholland stated that that is Federal money that gets distributed to all the states and that the State distributes it to the towns. He stated that it is more than 100% paid which is more than what is shown in that line.

### **Fire Department Budget**

Mr. LaFleur asked about the Fire Department Full-time salaries listed at \$87,294 and that a portion of that salary line goes to Chief Martin and do they want to see that moved up to the Chief's salary line. Mrs. Touchette stated that the Chief's salary line is a stipend. Mr. Gryval stated that the increase in that line is for the 3% increase effective July 1st and that the stipend or the call fire fighters are not touched. Mr. LaFleur asked if how they know what they are paying the Chief now. Mrs. Merrill stated that the stipends are listed in the back of the budget which lists the Chief's pay rate of \$19.95 an hour. Mr. Richardson stated that it comes out to be \$56,683.

Mrs. Merrill stated that she is wondering why they have such a high phone bill. Mr. Richards stated that it may be good to have Chief Martin in for that question because it may include the cost of pagers and what kind of system they are using that would increase the price. Mr. LaFleur asked if the cell phones were all taken out of the same budget. Mr. Gryval stated that they were but that they have separated them out by budget.

Mr. Caporale stated that he would like to ask Chief Martin about the electrical line item. He stated that he is looking at today's electrical costs and they are only at 41% of their budget so he is wondering why the \$9,000 is being included. Chief Mulholland stated that all the department's electrical are down because they had a mild winter last year. It was determined that the trucks also have to be plugged in which adds to the cost of electrical. Mr. Caporale determined that they did not need to ask Chief Martin about this line item.

Mrs. Merrill asked about the repair work for the accident when someone hit the building and how come they are paying for that. Mr. Gryval stated that with gross budgeting you have to account for money coming in as well as money coming out. He explained that the repairs were paid for with insurance money and that it did not actually come out of their tax dollars.

Mrs. Touchette asked Mr. Gryval if he knew in general what the budget for grants is for. Mr. Gryval explained that they apply for various grants such as for fire trucks, hosing and equipment, and training. He stated that the Select Board has asked them to be more aggressive in going after grants.

Mr. LaFleur asked about outside training and if that line was for getting someone from fire fighter 1 to fire fighter 2. Mr. Gryval stated that that is for multiple things and that Chief Martin could better answer that question. He stated that they try to get the best deal they can with training.

Mrs. Touchette asked if they still have the computer work being done in house for the Fire Department. Mr. Gryval stated that most of it is in house but not all of it. Mr. LaFleur asked about the outside instruction and that there was only \$1,800 being spent out of it this year. Mr. Gryval stated that things have been very tight with the budget this year and they asked everybody not to spend anything unless they absolutely have to and that there is a lot of training that the men and women could use that they have been putting off.

Mr. LaFleur asked if they could get an explanation as to why there is about \$5,000 left in gasoline and diesel. Chief Mulholland stated that that is because those costs have not been caught up yet with regards to the fees.

Mr. LaFleur asked if Chief Martin has any plans for replacing the lines for the fire boxes. Mr. Gryval stated that would be a good question for the Chief. Mrs. Touchette determined that they need to have Chief Martin come in now that they have several questions for him.

Mrs. Touchette asked if anyone had any questions for Animal Control Budget. It was asked how many calls they get per week. Chief Mulholland stated that he does not have it by week but that the main budget has statistics that lists animal calls by type. Chief Mulholland read the list of how many calls for each type of call. He stated that this does not include animal abatements closed.

Chief Mulholland stated that their numbers have gone down. Frascanella asked if they have any pit bulls in town. Chief Mulholland stated that they do but they don't tend to have the problems as other towns have with pit bulls.

Mr. Caporale asked if anyone had any questions on Civil Defense. Mrs. Merrill asked why the default isn't the same as the 2012 amount. Chief Mulholland stated that the biggest reason is because of the grant which is why there's such an increase.

Mr. LaFleur asked how much the Homeland Security grant is for. Chief Mulholland stated that the grant is for \$25,000 and it may be more than that. Mr. LaFleur asked Chief Mulholland to explain what the Homeland Security grant covers. Chief Mulholland explained that the grant is for the Exercise grants that they do every year which they get four each year. He explained that this year they are doing a wild land fire exercise and that last year they did a blizzard exercise. He also explained that the rest of the grant money is to rewrite the Recovery Plan. Chief Mulholland further explained the Recovery Plan process to the committee.

Mrs. Merrill stated that she wants to know why they are dropping Visiting Nurse and picking up American Red Cross. Mr. Gryval stated that typically Visiting Nurse asks for donations and they have not asked for it so they dropped it. Mr. Eaton asked Mr. Gryval what the \$2,000 for the American Red Cross is for. Mr. Gryval stated that that would be a good question for Mr. Apple. Mrs. Merrill asked Mr. Gryval if the \$10,000 in the budget for Visiting Nurses is still there. Mr. Gryval stated that they have not expended that money.

Mr. Eaton asked Mr. Gryval about Economic Development and if there was any activity on that. Mr. Gryval stated that there has been some activity. He explained that they didn't meet very much during the summer and that they don't have a set schedule but they have a meeting coming up this week. He stated that they have been very fortunate to have some outstanding residents volunteer for the EDC.

Frascanella stated that he would like to recommend that the Budget Committee reduce the Police Department to below the default budget. Mrs. Touchette stated that Chief Mulholland had already explained that if something happens there is no room in the budget. Mr. Caporale stated that with gas and overtime, they don't have accurate numbers yet. Mr. Gryval explained that if they combine all of the Chief's three budgets, they are below default. Chief Mulholland explained that he cut the other budgets because if he cut the Police Department budget he would have to lay someone off.

Mr. Richardson asked about the salaries for the ten officers and if he could clarify who he has for staff. Chief Mulholland stated that they have Chief, Lieutenant, Sargent, Detective and 6 patrol officers. He stated that all the salaries expenditures come out of the full-time line. Chief Mulholland stated that he has enough officers to cover all the shifts.

Mr. Caporale asked Chief Mulholland if he had to cut someone would the overnight shift be open. Chief Mulholland stated that if he cut someone, there would not be anyone for the overnight shift. Mr. Caporale asked if he knew what type of calls comes in on the overnight



shifts. Chief Mulholland stated that there are the DUIs, domestics, alarm activations, suspicious activity calls, calling out the Highway Department to plow in the winter, etc. Mr. Caporale asked if they charge for repeat problem alarms. Chief Mulholland stated that they do not have a lot of repeat calls for alarms so they do not charge for them.

Mr. Richardson asked Chief Mulholland if it would be beneficial to decrease the amount of employees and increase the overtime. Chief Mulholland stated that it would not be beneficial and that they need the amount of people to cover time such as vacation or sick leave. He explained that people are working 60 hours right now and that it is risky to be doing the 12 hour shifts. He further explained that half his workforce is not available right now because two are in the academy and one is on short-term disability.

Mrs. Merrill asked Chief Mulholland how far behind they are on paying their policeman for a town their size. Chief Mulholland explained that when they hire someone off the street, they are as competitive as other towns but when they are getting someone with years of experience they are paying quite a bit less. He explained that people are going to the larger departments because they can get more money and that they are not looking at the size of the town. There was further discussion of the current situation the Police Department is having with employees leaving because of salaries.

Mr. Gryval explained that there are costs in losing employees and how it has affected the Town this year. He stated that it costs more to train new police officers than to increase the pay of the current officers they have. He also discussed the other situations in which they have lost employees this year including their Building Inspector and Town Clerk. Mr. Gryval discussed what type of situation they would be in if they were to lose Chief Mulholland and the costs they would incur. Chief Mulholland stated that his former employees have stated that it is the lack of an increase in pay to keep up with the COLA that has caused them to leave.

Chief Mulholland explained the situation they are in where they are training officers and then the officers are going to other towns that can pay them more money. Mr. Richardson asked why they don't take the training money and give it to the officers as a raise. Chief Mulholland stated that they would not be able to pay for training if they did that. He further explained the breakdown of the salary costs for training officers. Mr. Gryval stated that not everyone who has left is leaving for a lot more money. He further explained how Mr. Anderson pointed out that it would be more cost efficient to give them raises than to train new officers.

Mr. LaFleur asked about Chief Mulholland how they would make cuts if the Budget Committee determined that the Police Department needs to cut their budget. Chief Mulholland stated that at this point, any cuts would have to be in personnel. He stated that if he was asked to cut his bottom line by 25% that would cost him about four officers which means no midnight shifts and no weekend shifts. Mr. LaFleur further stated that if the Budget Committee determines that the

Town's overall bottom line needs to be cut by 25% then it would fall into the hands of the Select Board. He also stated that it is the Budget Committee's budget that goes before the voters. He explained that the Select Board may move line items around to make that budget work.

### **Accessing Budget**

Mrs. Touchette asked about the salary for the clerk being the same for 2012 and 2013 since they were including a 3% increases. Mr. Gryval explained that is because the person they hired is not making the same amount of money as the person she replaced so that amount of money covers the 3% increase.

Mr. LaFleur asked if the fees associated with NH Central Regional have gone down because there is a \$2,500 reduction for that. Frascanella asked what the advertising money is going to the commission is going to be used for. Mr. Gryval stated that would be better answered by Mr. Apple.

Mr. Gryval stated that the Ambulance just got their budget in today and that will be on the Select Board's agenda either this week or next week.

Mr. LaFleur asked about the Building Inspector salary also being the same as last year's budget. Mr. Gryval explained that they have gone through three different Building Inspectors this year and that not everyone comes in at the same amount because it is based on their experience. He stated that line item is similar to the Assessing Clerk.

Mr. LaFleur asked what the investigations line is for. Mr. Gryval stated that is for certain complaints that come in and investigating them. He explained that the \$1,200 is based on what they have spent in the past on this line item. Mr. Gryval stated that it wasn't approved by the Select Board yet.

### **Capital Outlay Budget**

Mr. LaFleur asked if there is a reason to keep the repairs for the Town Hall line item open. Mr. Gryval stated that they need to keep that open and that they have only a dollar in there because they cannot afford to spend anymore. He explained that there are other repairs that need to be made to keep that building in working condition. Mr. Gryval stated that they want to keep the line open in the event that they have the money to do something.

### **Cemetery Budget**

Mrs. Merrill asked when they are going to do something with it. Mr. Gryval stated that they will do something with it when they have the money for it. Mrs. Merrill expressed concern of the Town getting fined for not taking care of it. Mr. Gryval stated that they are aware that that may happen.

### **Elections and Registrations Budget**

Mrs. Touchette asked if Mrs. Demers will be going in front of the Select Board on October 18, 2012. Mr. Gryval stated that she will be and that budget went down because there are fewer elections this year.

Mrs. Touchette asked if the Finance Director included the 3% increase. Mr. Gryval stated that it included the 3% increase. Mr. LaFleur asked why they have a Finance Director and stated that that was supposed to be part of the Administrator's responsibilities. Mr. Caporale stated that that would not have been in keeping with checks and balances as they cannot have the same person write checks and keep track of them. Mrs. Touchette stated that the Town Administrator spends money so he cannot keep track of it. Mr. LaFleur asked what the Treasurer is then doing. Mr. Gryval stated that the questions would be better suited for Mr. Apple to answer.

### **Executive Budget**

Mrs. Touchette asked Mr. Gryval about Mr. Apple researching the increase in electric bill for the Town Hall. Mr. Gryval stated that he had not spoken with Mr. Apple regarding the issue and will remind him to find out why the increase is there.

Mr. LaFleur asked about the fund for the Municipal Hydrants and what it is for and why the Fire Department is not doing that. Mr. Gryval stated that when Pembroke comes in and flushes them out, the Town is charged for that. He explained that Pembroke owns the hydrants so they are charged a rental fee for it. Mr. Gryval stated that they can look into it if needed.

Frascanella asked about the advertising line item for \$2,000 and what that covers. Mr. Gryval stated that is for advertising Public Hearings, deeding of property, and other public notices in ads and papers.

Mrs. Touchette stated that Mr. Apple had informed her that insurance didn't change.

The committee discussed having the Librarian come in to review the Library Budget. Mr. Gryval stated that she can come in to meet with them. He further explained her credentials and her past work experience. The committee determined to have Ms. Cushing come in to discuss the budget.

Mr. LaFleur stated that he has concern with the Parks and Recreation budget because there are other communities where the Parks & Rec Department pays for themselves. He explained that when the Parks & Rec Department first came, they got a lot of support from the Boys & Girls Club and he is wondering why they are not getting more support. Mr. Gryval stated that they are getting support but it's not as much as they used to. He explained that they can help subsidize this department with taxes or the fees for children will go up. Chief Mulholland stated that the \$16,000 is to pay for kids that can't afford to participate otherwise. The committee discussed the services at the Parks & Rec Department.

Mr. Caporale asked Mr. Richards if he sees that the Parks & Rec Department as making a difference. Mr. Richards explained that his two children go there and that they love it. He stated that they have all sorts of activities as well as field trips. The Board further discussed the benefits of the Parks & Recreation Department.

Mr. LaFleur asked if there was any direction to come up with a different way of a revenue stream other than asking for subsidizing through taxation. Mr. Gryval stated that they didn't give them an absolute direction. He stated that they have been coming up with different ways such as through concerts and grants without the Select Board's direction.

### **Personnel Budget**

Mrs. Touchette asked if the Personnel Budget was approved yet and if they are the same as what is in the budget the committee has. Mr. Gryval stated that it has been approved and that the numbers are the same.

Frascanella asked what the 10% increase to the Personnel Budget is for. Mr. Gryval stated that the merit increases covers a lot of it. Mrs. Touchette explained that insurance and dental were increases of 4.2% and 1.2%. There was also discussion of the retirement increases for Group 2 employees.

### **Planning Board Budget**

Mrs. Touchette asked about the Planning Board budget as far as the cost of legal fees. Mr. Gryval stated that the legal fees have gone down town wide since they contracted with the new service. Mrs. Touchette also asked who they were planning on having for a Planning Consultant. Mr. Gryval stated that she should ask the Planning Board about that but that typically it is the NH Central Planning Commission or LGC.

Mrs. Touchette asked about the Planning Engineer being moved. Mr. Gryval stated that that was done because the Planning Board believes that any engineering fees incurred should be passed on to the client which they will do that through escrow and fees.

Frascanella stated that he got a notice from NH Electric Co-op stating that they are going to implement LED lights and asked who owns Allenstown's streetlights and maintains them. Chief Mulholland stated that they own the streetlights and the Town pays a flat fee for the usage of them. He explained that if a light is purposely damaged, the Town has to pay for it.

Mrs. Touchette asked if they can have them turn certain lights off. Chief Mulholland stated that they could shut off certain lights at certain times, however; the money saved is not huge. He also explained that the savings wouldn't be seen until seven or eight years from now. Mr. Gryval stated that the Select Board discussed turning off the lights and determined not to do it. He explained that the Select Board determined it was not a good idea to turn them off because of

safety reasons or financially beneficial. Mr. LaFleur asked about the study that was being done for rather to turn off the lights, if they had explored using solar lighting. Chief Mulholland stated that they don't get that option from PSNH so it was not explored.

Mr. LaFleur asked what the increase in the treasurer's expenses is for. Mr. Gryval stated that he will get an answer for them.

Frascanella asked what part of the Welfare Budget goes toward the needy people. Mr. Gryval asked if he would like to have the Welfare Director in. Mr. LaFleur explained that those funds are to help people with rent or food assistance. Mr. Gryval stated that all of the expenses are for the people. He explained that the budget also includes the expense for the Welfare Director's cell phone that she uses for that purpose.

Mrs. Touchette stated that the departments they would like to come back are: Highway, Police Department, Town Administrator, and Library. She also stated that they still need to have the Ambulance, School and Sewer Department budgets presented to them. It was determined that they would give Mr. Apple the dates of October 25<sup>th</sup>, Nov 1<sup>st</sup>, or Nov 8<sup>th</sup> for the departments to come back. Mr. LaFleur asked that a copy of the questions be advanced to the departments as well as the Board.

Mrs. Hetu, Minutes Clerk, addressed the Board and thanked them for allowing her to attend the workshop tonight and meet everyone. She also thanked them for being willing to say their names when making a motion for clarity purposes.

Motion. Mr. Anderson made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Richardson seconded the Motion. There was no additional discussion.

A Roll Call Vote was taken: Mr. Anderson-Yes; Mr. Coolidge-Yes; Mrs. Merrill-Yes; Mr. McKenney-Yes; Mr. Caporale-Yes; Mrs. Touchette-Yes, Mr. Jon Richardson-Yes; Mr. Gryval-Yes; Robin Richards-Yes; and Ms. Lisa Komm-Abstained; Mrs. Touchette declared the Motion passed.

Mrs. Touchette adjourned the meeting at 8:07pm.



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