



TOWN OF WARNER

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Select Board: Michael Smith, Chair
Faith Minton
Harry Seidel
Kathleen Frenette, Town Administrator

Select Board Meeting Minutes December 23, 2024 at 10:00AM

Lower Meeting Room Warner Town Hall 5 E Main St

I. Open the Meeting and Roll Call

Harry Seidel called the meeting to order at 10:12 AM

Present: Faith Minton, Harry Seidel

Absent: Mike Smith

Also present: Kathy Frenette Town Administrator and Judy Newman-Rogers Selectboard Administrative Assistant, Ed Mical Emergency Management Director, William Chandler Police Chief, Tim Allen Director of Public Works, John Leavitt resident

II. 2025 Capital Budget

The Select Board reviewed the capital budget. They heard from Ed Mical regarding his interest in a Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) for Emergency Management; he would like to allocate \$6,500 for an emergency or disaster shelter funding; currently there is no funding set aside. Faith Minton suggested that Kathy Frenette and Ed Mical meet with Mike Smith when he returns to discuss Mr. Mical's request. Clyde Carson Finance Director explained that a CRF would require the Trustees of the Trust Funds to convene a meeting in order to expend the funds. He suggested adding funds to the contingency fund that the Select Board are able to more easily expend immediately. Judy Newman-Rogers clarified that the Select Board needs to vote to expend funds from a CRF at a meeting. Kathy Frenette explained the rationale for the Town providing the Emergency Management department with a credit card.

Kathy Frenette urged the Select Board to consider a CRF for IT expenses. She noted that computers will need to be replaced in the future. She suggested \$5,000 per year.

The Select Board reviewed the Capital Budgets as requested in the CIP totaling \$769,500. Harry Seidel stated they should look at what the Town can afford and consider ways to reduce the amount.

Records Preservation request is \$20,000 (this is the last year).

Police Department vehicle replacement request is \$25,000. Previous years they requested \$15,000.

Harry Seidel suggested cutting it back to \$15,000. Faith Minton cautioned about the effect on future requests. She suggested a conversation with the Police Chief and the Select Board.

Bridge Repair and Replacement CRF \$125,000 was requested. Harry Seidel suggested speaking to Tim Allen about reducing the request to \$75,000. Clyde Carson suggested discussing the grant funds for the culvert projects.

Highway Equipment CRF \$200,000 is requested. Harry Seidel inquired if \$100,000 is feasible.

Transfer Station Facility CRF \$75,000 is requested. Harry Seidel inquired if \$50,000 would be sufficient.

Fire Fighters Equipment \$49,500 is requested. Clyde Carson explained this is an essential replacement request.

1 **Fire and Rescue vehicles** \$175,000 is requested. Harry Seidel inquired if \$100,000 would be sufficient.
2 The Select Board will speak to the Fire Chief.
3 Clyde Carson cautioned the Select Board about cutting large requests for planned purchases, that funding will
4 need to increase in future years and possibly delay a purchase.

5 **Property Reval CRF** \$ 35,000 is requested. Harry Seidel believes this amount is not sufficient. He
6 suggested \$55,000.

7 **Town Hall improvements CRF** \$30,000 is requested. Harry Seidel would like to look for grants for the
8 entire amount.

9 **Contingency Fund** \$10,000 is requested

10 **Employee Expendable Trust Fund** amount requested to be determined. Harry Seidel suggested \$10,000.

11
12 Harry Seidel stated the total amount he suggested cutting is approximately \$250,000. The Select Board agreed
13 that this review was a good starting point in the Capital Budget Review process. They agreed to continue the
14 discussion when Mike Smith is present; they will invite and speak with Tim Allen, Bill Chandler, Jon France
15 and Clyde Carson for capital budget clarification. Harry Seidel spoke about the urgency to finalize the Capital
16 Budget. Judy Newman-Rogers cautioned that other warrant articles from the townspeople could be submitted
17 which would increase the Capital Budget.
18

19 **III. Select Board Unanticipated Business**

20 None

21 **IV. Non-public Session (If needed, RSA 91-A:3 II (a,b,c,d,e,f,g,h,I,j,k,l))**

22 None

23 **V. Adjournment**

24 **Faith Minton made a motion seconded by Harry Seidel to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed**
25 **unanimously.**

26
27 Respectfully submitted by Tracy Doherty
28 Edits by Judy Newman-Rogers Selectboard Admin Asst.
29