

# Approved

## Town of Grantham Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes November 14, 2024

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 3:00 PM on Thursday, November 14, 2024, by Chair Peter Garland. The Board met in the Grantham Town Building, Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room, 300 Route 10 South, Grantham, NH.

Present: Chair Peter Garland, Selectman Warren Kimball, Selectman Constance Jones and Town Administrator Melissa White, Maria Dahlman, and department heads at various times during the meeting

Transfer Station Supervisor Chris Scott reviewed his proposed budget with the Board. Changes were made to buildings and ground maintenance – budget \$10,000; increase advertising to \$1,000 for recruitment; keep the tire budget level funded at \$6,000. Administrator White asked about the miscellaneous line and asked if it should be increased to \$1,000 to match FY24 budget to actual. The Board wasn't keen on increasing this line and asked White to review the expenses from last year with Scott.

Scott informed that Casella is now charging the weight of mattresses plus an additional fee of \$25 per mattress and recommended that the construction and demolition disposal line be increased to \$75,000 to account for this and any tonnage increases. Scott also recommended the fee schedule be changed to \$30 for any mattress size and box springs at \$15. He also recommended allowing residents to cut up the mattresses and remove the springs for metal recycling, and then the textile component of the mattress could be bagged and placed in with regular trash, resulting in no cost to the resident. Scott said there is a bill in the legislature to ban mattresses from landfills, however, he was unsure of what the outcome of that bill would be. White asked if the NRRA will follow it and Scott said he didn't know. White said the NHMA probably would and would read their bulletins as they arrive.

White suggested the recycle disposal account be increased to cover costs associated with the food scrap diversion program.

White also suggested working with the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission (RPC) to participate in their household hazardous waste (HHW) program. She said the benefits would be that our residents could take their hazardous waste to any town that participates in the RPCs HHW program.

Capital projects were reviewed as provided to the CIP Committee. Maria Dahlman, resident and member of the CIPC said that the backhoe should be replaced due to safety issues.

Library Director Dawn Huston and Library Trustee and Treasurer Rita Friedman reviewed the proposed budget for the library. Director Huston said they were able to reduce professional services due to volunteer background checks being completed and that propane costs were down, which resulted in an overall decrease in operational costs of 1.83%. Huston said they are requesting funding for their building repair capital reserve fund of \$10,000 and \$3,000 for the technology and office equipment expendable trust fund.

The budget for the conservation commission was reviewed.

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Dahlman, who also serves on the Building Needs Committee requested that money be allocated to buildings and grounds for Transfer Station safety improvements. She thought that the tripping hazard around the recycling containers could be fixed by filling in gaps instead of relying on the cones. This would improve the safety of patrons while the Building Needs Committee continues their review of the facility.

### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Selectman Kimball moved to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Jones. By unanimous vote, the Board adjourned at 4:13 PM.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen will be held on **Monday, November 25, 2024,**  
**at 5 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Melissa M. White*

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Town Administrator