

Town of Sandisfield

Select Board

Minutes for Select Board Work Session held on Friday, February 3, 2023 at 2:30pm at the Town Hall, 66 Sandisfield Road, Sandisfield, MA

Members present: Steve Seddon
John Field, Jonathan Sylbert, and Alex Bowman by remote

1. FY24 Budget Work Session

The Select Board begins reviewing their own budget. Janey Beardsley is asked to transfer all FY22 expenses into a spreadsheet to better distinguish what should be appropriated for Select Board expenses, and what items should be included in a new budget line for Office Supplies or Printing/Mailing.

Steve will not be requesting an increase in Select Board stipends. The amount appropriated for Legal Services will be determined once Town Counsel, KP Law, confirms their service fee for the FY, but they will tentatively request a \$2,000 increase to \$17,000.

Berkshire Mental Health and Community Health will be removed from the budget in FY24, as no monies had been expended from the lines in the last three years. Berkshire Regional Planning Committee should be moved to the Planning Board budget.

Jonathan reviews the Health and Sanitation Budget which includes Board of Health clerk, expenses, and the cost for Jayne Smith as Health Inspector. The inspections including well inspections and Title IV inspections, will be included in the Board of Health Revolving Account.

The Town Clerk budget has been submitted with a 27% decrease, which can be attributed to a decrease in expense items, as there are no state or federal elections this FY, and a decrease in hours for the Town Clerk and Assistant positions.

The Recreation Committee is asking for an 8.5% increase to their budget. The Select Board has been asked to move the cost of the \$1,000 American Legion lease under a different budget, as the Recreation Committee is not the only entity in town that utilizes the space. It's agreed to move the lease under the Select Board budget responsibilities, and decrease the Rec budget by the \$1,000.

A pig roast is an event the Rec Committee should consider budgeting for, or possibly creating a special article for as it may not be an event the town wants to hold annually. The Rec Committee is one of the few Boards/Committees that do not receive stipends. Rec Committee Chair will be asked what stipends seem fair based on the average \$350 for the chair and \$250 for each member.

It's suggested to schedule a budget meeting every Friday. The Highway, Fire and Police budgets will be reviewed next Friday, February 10 at 2:30pm.

Meeting adjourned 3:15pm

Steve Seddon

Alex Bowman

John Field