

DRAFT of Special Selectboard Meeting
Held on Friday January 28, 2022 at 6:30 PM Via ZOOM

Selectboard Members Present:

Dorothy Maggio, David Jones, Gwen Tanza, Stan Noga, Bruce Mello

Public Present:

Guy Tanza Town Clerk

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:31 PM
2. There were no changes to the agenda
3. Guy Tanza was present on Zoom as the town clerk/resident
4. Dorothy Maggio shared with the selectboard that the 2020-2021 Budget had a surplus amount of \$2,153.00 according to the auditors. She identified two possible ways to appropriate the money. A) amend article 3 to apply the surplus to reduce the tax burden, B) Add Article 31 which would apply the surplus to the Capital Reserve fund. She asked for a motion to be made on how to apply the surplus.
5. David Jones made a motion seconded by Stan Noga to Amend Article 3 and reduce the tax burden by \$2,153.00.

Discussion followed about how reducing the tax burden would be appropriate considering that there was an article for a \$20,000.00 appropriation to a budget stabilization fund this year. Highway and Municipal budgeted amounts for 2022-2023 have gone up significantly. After discussion - the question was called.

The motion made by David Jones had 2 votes for returning the money to the taxpayers and 3 votes against the motion. The motion did not pass.

Bruce Mello made a motion seconded by Gwen Tanza that Article 31 should be added to the 2022 Town warning to read as follows: Shall the Town apply the budget surplus from the 2020-21 budget in the amount of \$2,153.00 in the following manner? \$2,153 to the Capital Improvement Reserve.

Discussion followed about the need to be better prepared for expenses that arise for town owned buildings. This fund is not large and should be replenished with the surplus. The size of the surplus was a factor in not applying it to the tax burden where it would make a minimal impact on property taxes; but it would be more beneficial being available for a Capital Improvement if needed. After discussion - the question was called.

The motion made by Bruce Mello had 3 votes in favor and 2 against. The motion passed

6. David Jones asked what would happen to the surplus money if Article 31 was voted down. While we believe it is safe to say that the surplus would then be applied towards the tax burden reducing it by \$2,153.00. Dorothy Maggio will check with VLCT on Monday to confirm this and will make note of this during the informational meeting.
7. With no further discussion, Dorothy Maggio made a motion to adjourn the special meeting. David Jones seconded the motion. The motion passed to adjourn without discussion at 6:50 pm.

Submitted by

Dorothy Maggio