

WESTFIELD SELECTBOARD & BUDGET MEETING

Minutes

December 7, 2021 @ 8:00 a.m.

Westfield Town Office, 38 School Street

Town Officials Present: Selectboard members: Jacques Couture (Chair), and Anne Lazor; Treasurer, Lisa Deslandes; Town Clerk, LaDonna Dunn; and Road Commissioner, Eric Kennison (for a portion of the meeting).

Community Members Present: Richard Degre

1. Call Meeting to Order – Jacques Couture, Chair: Jacques called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m.

2. Public Comment – 5 Minutes: None

3. Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda: None

4. Approve Minutes of the 10-11-21 Selectboard Meeting: There was a motion by Anne and second by Jacques to approve the minutes as written. Passed.

5. Draft Highway Budget for FY22: The Selectboard reviewed the 2021 highway budget figures line by line and came up with a proposed budget for FY22. The Selectboard notes the following:

- Jacques reported Jason Delabruere from D & D Electric has been contacted to rewire the radar sign on the north end of town.
- The Grader Fund Reserve will be increased to \$8,000/per year.
- Eric’s wages will increase on October 1, 2022 by the Social Security recommended 5.9% cost-of-living adjustment (COLA).
- The Wild and Scenic Grant, Grants in Aid, as well as a Better Roads Grant have been submitted but awards will not be made until the spring.

6. Other Business:

A. Reminder: Informational Meeting to Meet the Candidates for Selectboard 12-8-21 at 6 p.m.at the Westfield Community Center.

B. NEMRC Contract: Lisa explained there were still areas she had not been fully trained in and she felt it would be in the towns best interest for her to have proper training. She requested the Selectboard hire NEMRC to help her in these areas. There was a motion by Anne and second by Jacques to sign the NEMRC agreement beginning December 6, 2021 and ending December 5, 2022 at a reduced rate of \$110/hour (reduced from the normal hourly rate of \$145 plus travel expenses) for a minimum of 96 hours to be billed weekly. There is no maximum on the number of hours that can be purchased at the discounted rate. Any unused hours that do not meet the minimum of 96 hours during the year will be billed on December 6, 2022.

7. Motion to Recess Meeting until 12-21-21 at 8 a.m. for the General Fund Budget Meeting: Following a motion by Anne and second by Jacques at 10:37 a.m., the meeting was recessed until 12-21-21 at 8 a.m. at the Town Office.

Westfield Selectboard Approval: Date: _____ **with** _____ **change(s)**

Jacques Couture, Chair

Anne Lazor

Minutes submitted by: _____
LaDonna Dunn, Town Clerk