

**Joint Meeting of the Temple Select Board and
Budget Advisory Committee Minutes
October 12th, 2022
7 PM at the Town Hall**

The meeting was opened at 7 p.m. by Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) Chair Gary Scholl.

Select Board (Board) members present: Ken Caisse and Bill Ezell.

BAC members in attendance: Gary Scholl (BAC Chair), Gail Cromwell, Tim Fiske, Rob Kenney, and Paul Clifton-Waite.

Others present: Andrew Paul of the CIP Committee, Town Tax Collector Elizabeth Maxcy-Humphrey, Town Treasurer Peter Allen, and Select Board Assistant Carole Singelais.

Scholl opened with a review of the draft budgets for the municipal building and finance. Discussion of telephone and internet cost ensued. Scholl said he would prefer to cancel one of the services at the end of the month, given the tight budget situation, to save \$150/month. Singelais said she would be speaking with Comcast. in coming days.

Discussion turned to replacement of a pair of wooden file cabinets in the municipal building and where and how to find affordable set. Singelais estimated pricing at \$800-900 per cabinet. Singelais was directed to get pricing and use funding from the 2022 budget to buy one cabinet and use 2023 funds for the second.

Committee members discussed training and seminar costs and copier maintenance. Maxcy-Humphrey noted the 2013 copier smears some print jobs. Discussion of making its replacement a CIP item, and whether to lease or purchase a new machine. Singelais is set to research the replacement. Singelais is also examining alternative bids for cleaning services for the municipal offices and town hall – an \$11,000 annual cost.

Committee reduced the telephone and internet line item from \$5,000 to \$4,000. Discussion turned to postage. Singelais will research vendor options other than Pitney Bowes, with assistance as needed from Clifton-Waite.

Because Town Clerk Wendy Drouin was absent, the Committee said they would postpone review of that section of the budget.

Discussion turned to electricity costs and then ballfields. Committee members revised the portable toilets line item upwards to \$1,000 given the current over-budget situation and return to outdoor recreation.

Maxcy-Humphrey explained that her postage costs would drop to \$800 and that she expects to only spend about \$600 total this year. Committee members tagged abatement costs tentatively at \$3,500 instead of \$5,000. They also left dues and training as proposed.

Treasurer Peter Allen suggested the town look for possible savings by investigating alternative fuel sources other than current vendor Rymes Heating.

Allen explained the Quickbooks subscription cost change due to a version replacement, and that the postage increase is due to a rate increase. Allen said an alternative is to embrace ACH payments for vendors to eliminate certain mailings; however, not all payments could be made this way.

**Joint Meeting of the Temple Select Board and
Budget Advisory Committee Minutes
October 12th, 2022
7 PM at the Town Hall**

Committee members revisited town hall repairs and the \$4,200 for painting the east side of the hall in 2023. However, Caisse said issues of rot in sills and the bottom of the wall would likely cost an additional \$1,000 and he would seek a price quote.

Committee members discussed deputy town clerk costs and the election night charge of \$20/hour versus \$9/hour for election workers. Scholl said he had spoken with Road Agent Kent Perry about vehicle maintenance that appears to be running up his budget. He said he suggested items be flagged, and that the expendable trust has \$47,000 for vehicle repairs.

Committee members reviewed the Sept. 28th draft meeting minutes and made one correction. Motion by Cromwell to accept the minutes as amended, seconded by Kenney, unanimously adopted.

Scholl noted that the Temple-Greenville Police budget would be underspent this year, due to staffing challenges; next year's budget is about \$250,000 of which Temple's portion is 40 percent. Caisse said that the ambulance budgets could be impacted if the Town of Peterborough votes to finance a new building, whose expense Temple would have to share in because of the service contract.

With no further business pending, Scholl motioned to adjourn, seconded by Kenney, all in favor.
Meeting ended at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Clifton-Waite
BAC Secretary