

Emergency Meeting of the Hinesburg Selectboard Meeting Draft

April 22, 2022

Hybrid Meeting

Present: Merrily Lovell, Maggie Gordon, Dennis Place (remote), Phil Pouech (remote), Todd Odit, Joy Dubin Grossman (remote), Stuart D

Absent: Mike Loner

Meeting Called to order at 3:30pm

Additions/Deletions to the Agenda

None at this time

Consider Approval of Revised Police Budget

Recently three Hinesburg Police Officers resigned to move to departments that offered \$10 to \$11 more an hour as well as “signing on bonuses”. These resignations and the inability for the Vermont State Police to provide police support due to their statewide shortage is of great concern to the Town.

Merrily, Todd and Chief Cambridge met with Sargent Casco to discern the possibility of retaining the three officers; he being one of them. Two of the three officers were not interested in staying and the third was a maybe. Following this meeting the general sentiment, if there’s not enough funds to staff all of the shifts, we won’t have a department.

The two remaining officers were given raises by the Town Manager in an effort to retain them.

Merrily expressed concern and remorse that the board hasn’t done a good job acting quickly on bringing forth a budget as well as not being supportive enough of the department.

Phil was looking for clarification on how many officers, cops grant information and which of the budget were at play. He was also concerned about listening to the voters.

Maggie expressed concern as well about listening to the voters.

Dennis asked questions and had concerns about the Cops Grant, staffing, and overall expenses.

Jennifer Decker was concerned with the town having to continue to the Cops Grant after the funding ended.

Todd proposed voting on two budgets

Option 1 \$800, 491 total expenditure which has enough funding for 5 possibly 6 officers and retains Cops grant

Option 2 \$773,579 does not have enough of a salary line to support 6 officers which eliminates the Cops Grant and ultimately costs the town more money.

Phil made a motion, seconded by Maggie to bring Option 1 FY23 Revised Budget to the voters. The motion passed with 4 yes votes.

Approved 5/4/22

34 Consider Approval of Special Meeting Vote on Revised Police Budget Phil made a motion, seconded by  
35 Maggie to have a Public Information Meeting May 4, 6:00pm & May 24 Australian Ballot election. The  
36 motion passed with 4 yes votes.

37 Motion to adjourn 4:55

38 Respectfully submitted,

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40 Joy Dubin Grossman

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