

**TOWN OF RYE SELECT BOARD
MEETING**

**Friday, December 15, 2023, 9:00 a.m.
Rye Town Hall & Via Zoom**

Select Board Present: *Chair Tom King, Vice-Chair Bill Epperson, and Selectman Bob McGrath*

Others Present: *Town Administrator Matt Scruton, Asst. Town Administrator/Finance Director Becky Bergeron, Police Chief Kevin Walsh, and DPW Director Jason Rucker*

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair King reconvened the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

II. BUDGET

a. Warrant Articles

ARTICLE A. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of thirty-five thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$35,000.00) to be added to The Municipal Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund established by Article 11 at the 2007 Town Meeting under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, for the purpose of major repairs to municipal buildings. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

**Motion by Tom King to recommend Article A as written. Seconded by Bill Epperson.
Vote: 3-0**

ARTICLE B. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ten thousand and 00/100 dollars (\$10,000.00) to be added to the Conservation Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund established by Article 13 at the 2021 Town meeting pursuant to RSA 31:19-a to repair and maintain land and buildings owned by the Town of Rye and managed by the Rye Conservation Commission. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority vote required.)

**Motion by Tom King to recommend Article B as written. Seconded by Bob McGrath.
Vote: 3-0**

b. Capital Outlay

Finance Director Becky Bergeron noted that the Budget Committee tabled two capital outlay requests. One was the security system for the Town Hall Annex. The other was the RCC's reduced request for \$18,000., which has now been withdrawn. The new number for capital outlay is \$606,272., if the Select Board were recommending the Town Hall Annex security system. She pointed out that the questions the Budget Committee had were in regard to it being an open and scalable system; the operational yearly maintenance; and whether the server at the Public Safety Building would have sufficient storage space. She continued that the system is open and scalable. There may be some minor modifications needed at Phase 2 and Phase 3, if the Annex phases were to be approved. There could be ongoing maintenance if the Town chooses monitoring by an outside company. However, the Police Department will be doing the monitoring, so there will be no ongoing maintenance. It's felt that the server capacity at the Public Safety Building is sufficient, at this time.

- **Capital Outlay - \$606,272:**
 - Town Wide Vehicles - \$210,000
 - Town Wide Computers - \$24,500
 - Police Department - \$116,830
 - Town Wide Infrastructure - \$46,595
 - Public Works - \$62,500
 - MS4 - \$40,000
 - Parson's Creek - \$54,797
 - Annex Security - \$51,050

Motion by Tom King to recommend six hundred six thousand two hundred seventy-two dollars (\$606,272) for capital outlay. Seconded By Bill Epperson. Vote: 3-0

III. OTHER BUSINESS

a. Meeting Minutes

1. Meeting, Thursday, November 2, 2023, 8:30 a.m., Rye Town Hall

Motion by Tom King to approve the minutes of November 2, 2023 as written. Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in favor.

b. Select Board Representative Updates

- Selectman McGrath reported that HDC voted 7 to 0 for the placement of the monuments. The Commission would like to continue to have a voice moving forward with regard to the monuments.
It was noted by Town Administrator Matt Scruton that the Rye 400 Monument will likely be placed within the week.

Selectman McGrath continued that the representative working on the proposed expansion of the Historic District met with the Commission and made an initial presentation. At this time, District is defined as 500' from the roadway. The representative feels it's wiser to define it from property lines.

The Select Board agreed that there could be issues by doing it from the property lines and that's probably why it was set up like it was initially.

- Selectman McGrath spoke in regard to the pie chart submitted by the School Board, which shows the taxpayers the categories for expenditures. He would like to see this for the town budget.
There was discussion with Finance Director Bergeron about what the Select Board would like to see in the pie charts for information.
- Vice-Chair Epperson reported that the Planning Board is still working on the buildout analysis and the Master Plan. There is going to be a public hearing in February, sometime around the 15th, so people will be able to get an overview of the work on the Master Plan.
- Chair King noted that the Capital Improvements Committee is waiting on a few tables in order to complete the CIP. The CIP has been approved so nothing else has to be done, at this time. It will be published once the tables are complete.
- Chair King commented that he read in the paper that the State is giving two million dollars towards marsh restoration. Fairhill Marsh is one of three marshes that the funds will be split between, which is very good news for the Town.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Tom King to adjourn at 10:27 a.m. Seconded by Bill Epperson. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F Ledger