



TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
OPEN SESSION
TOWN HOUSE-26 EVERGREEN ST. ROOM 200 & VIA ZOOM
APRIL 13, 2023

6:00 PM – CALL TO ORDER – ROOM 200

Chairman Kimberley Emberg called to order the meeting of the Board of Selectmen at 6:00 PM. Selectmen in attendance: Donald Alcombright, Sheila Vaughn, Jessica Kramer, and Mr. Bouchard were virtual.

Staff Present: Keith Hickey, Town Administrator; Gloria Mitchell, Assistant Town Administrator; and Patricia Tucker, Assistant to the Town Administrator.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Ms. Emberg read:

This meeting is being recorded by PACTV. Anyone intending to make an audio or video recording of the meeting should notify us at this time.

Financial assistance applications are available on the Town's website or by calling the Selectmen's office.

OPEN FORUM:

There was no one in attendance for Open Forum.

APPOINTMENTS:

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

REVIEW PROPOSED ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT, MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS AND DETERMINE WHICH BOARD MEMBER WILL MOVE EACH ARTICLE

Ms. Emberg explained that the Finance Committee met last night and voted, so the Board was to review what they reviewed.

Ms. Emberg began with Article 4, General Fund Operating Budget.

The Finance Committee voted on the General budget at \$52,276,109, which does not include or support the four additional firefighters being requested.

Ms. Emberg opened up for discussion with the Board. Ms. Vaughn stated that she is not changing her votes on the budget. Ms. Vaughn supports the additional four firefighters and the presented school budget of a 10% increase. Ms. Emberg discussed a significant deficit in the school's budget and hopes this is an abnormal highest increase in 11 years.

It was noted that the Finance Committee supported the school's budget.

Ms. Emberg stated that the Finance Committee budget that was voted on at the Finance Committee meeting is before the Board for review, and Ms. Emberg asked if someone wants to make a motion regarding that.

Mr. Hickey stated that if the Board needs to vote in support or not in support of the Finance Committee recommendations, The Board could amend on the Town Meeting floor if that is something they choose to do.

Jean Landis Naumann states that if there is an amendment at Town Meeting, there should be a prepared fact sheet at

Town Meeting.

The Board discussed had a minimal discussion.

Motion by Ms. Kramer, seconded by Mr. Alcombright, and a 0-5-0 vote,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to recommend favorable action General budget in the amount of \$52,276,109.

Ms. Jean Landis Nauman was in attendance to discuss the CPC Article for Affordable Housing that was voted unfavorable by the Finance Committee. After discussion, the Board kept their original vote to support the article.

There was a brief discussion of the refurbishment of ambulance, Mr. Hickey discussed why the refurbishment was the choice versus a new ambulance. The Board agrees to their original vote to support.

Carl Pike made two comments that he said are important across the Town. He said to look at budgets, and said that he believes it's out of control that the \$2.8-million increase is made up of \$1.8 million of education and \$1 million from the rest of the Town.

Regarding the quote of 10% to the school, the bottom line is an actual \$638,000 increase to Chapter 70, and when you factor that into the increase, the actual increase to the taxpayers is close to 6.1%.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE VOTE FOR THE LIEUTENANTS OF THE KINGSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Ms. Kramer recused herself and left the table.

Mr. Hickey explained that an agreement was reached with the Lieutenants and he added that this proposal falls in line with all other contracts that have been approved.

Motion by Mr. Alcombright, seconded by Ms. Vaughn, and a 4-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen 3-year Contract between the Town of Kingston and the Kingston Lieutenants.

Ms. Kramer returned to the table.

REQUEST TO INCREASE THE SPENDING LIMIT ON THE INSPECTIONAL SERVICES REVOLVING FUND

Ms. Emberg explained the memo before the Board to increase the expenditures from \$125,000 to \$150,000 and will be is funded through revenue.

Motion by Mr. Alcombright, seconded by Ms. Vaughn, and a 5-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to approve the request from Mr. Silva to increase the spending limit from \$125,000 to \$150,000.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Hickey spoke on a few items.

- The Board was sent an update on Gray's Beach Playground and the Town's Website.
- The Water Commissioners voted to put a moratorium in place for case-by-case developments. There is currently no capacity for water or wastewater.

SELECTMEN COMMENTS:

There was a reminder that the Finance Committee will be meeting on April 19, 2023; the Board of Selectmen will post a meeting just in case the Selectmen need to vote on any changes.

Ms. Kramer wanted to make further a motion for the budget to be documented that supports the additional 4 firefighters and supports the increase in the school budget.

Motion by Ms. Kramer, seconded by Mr. Alcombright, and a 5-0-0 vote,

VOTE: I move the Board of Selectmen to support a budget in the total of \$52,454,230

Motion by Ms. Kramer, second by Mr. Alcombright, and a 5-0-0 vote,
VOTE: I move to adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Tucker
Assistant to the Town Administrator/Board of Selectmen