Moira Paddock, Chair (present) Gayle Gallant (present) Jeff Northgraves (present)

# Donna Withington (present) Katie-Lyn Greene-Rackliff (present)

# Alan Hall (present) Camille Minikis (absent) Cliff Retzlaff (present)

# Also present: Selectboard members Jan Gaudio, Walter Reitz and Cheryl Waterman (Budget Meetings are ‘joint’ meetings of the Selectboard and Budget Committee), Town Administrator Owen Casas, Beverly St. Clair

# Meeting Opened at 1:12 PM.

Discussion on the minutes from January 30th meeting

Donna Withington moved to accept the minutes. Alan Hall seconded: **Motion Passed 7-0.**

A review was done on all the department budgets which we had previously given preliminary approval to. Noting any changes to amounts in these budget requests.

**Administration (510):** Preliminary approval of $226,136. Current request $226,469. Difference of +$333, Increase of 705 to Benefits and decrease of 372 to Insurance.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $226,469, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**Assessors (520):** Preliminary approval of $42,398. Current request $42,157. Difference of -241, decrease of 13 to Benefits and decrease of 228 to Insurance.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $42,157, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**Planning Board/Board of Appeals (530):** Preliminary approval of $920. No change.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $920, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**Building & Grounds (540):** Preliminary approval of $58,711. No change. This budget includes $15,640 for the Gilford Butler School building.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $58,711, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**Town Landing (550):** Preliminary approval of $8,000. No change.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $8,000, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**CEO & Plumbing (560):** Preliminary approval of $27,028. Current request $25,493. Difference of -1,535, decrease of 264 to Benefits, decrease of 71 to Insurance and a decrease to Contract Services of 1,200.

Alan Hall made a motion for final approval of $25,493, Donna Withington seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**Fire Department (570):** Preliminary approval of $127,023. Current request $116,652. Difference of -10,371, Increase of 120 to Salaries & Stipends, decrease of 256 to Benefits and decrease of 205 to Insurance, decrease of 8,000 to Portable Radios, and a decrease of 2,000 to Pagers and an addition mistake in the preliminary numbers.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $116,652, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 6 - 1**.

**Ambulance Service (580):** Preliminary approval of $213,156. Current request $216,969. Difference of 3813, Increase of 1472 to Benefits and decrease of 2341 to Insurance.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $216,969, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**General Public Safety (590):** Preliminary approval of $59,511. No change.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $59,511, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**Street Lights (600):** Preliminary approval of $9,300. No change.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $9,300, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**Public Works/Town Roads (610):** Preliminary approval of $286,293. Current request $287,278. Difference of 985, decrease of 15 to Insurance and 1,000 increase to mowing.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $287,278, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**Health & Sanitation (630):** Preliminary approval of $221,983. Current request $221,229. Difference of -754, decrease of 79 to Insurance and an addition error in preliminary numbers.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $221,229, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**General Assistance (640):** Preliminary approval of $1,500. No change.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $1,500, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**Library (650):** Preliminary approval of $2,099. No change.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $2,099, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**Recreation (660):** Preliminary approval of $12,670. No change.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $12,670, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 5 - 2**.

**Debt Services (670):** Preliminary approval of $62,085. No change.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $62,085, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**Reserve Funds (690):** Preliminary approval of $213,179. No change.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $213,179, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

**Unclassified (695):** Preliminary approval of $20,608. Current request $20.621. Difference of 13, increase of 13 to Insurance.

Donna Withington made a motion for final approval of $20,621, Alan Hall seconded. **Motion passed 6 – 0 with 1 abstaining**.

For a total budget request of $1,584,843 which is a 20.56% increase over last year’s budget.

Jeff Northgraves gave a tutorial on how the budget committee comes up with its recommendations to the Selectboard related to Reserves and Surplus. He also provided a sample summary sheet as an example of spreading anticipated revenue and excise tax to the various budgets.

A discussion of reserves and surplus followed. Part of the discussion related to identifying $34,100 which had been previously taxed, not spent, and requested again in this year’s budget request.

If the Selectboard follows the budget committee suggestion, this would result in a funding requirement of $746,575 from taxpayer appropriation, which is a 12.61% increase over last year. And would keep the town under the LD1 Levy Limit by $66,755.

Jeff Northgraves made a motion to recommend taking the $153,479 which had been received this past year from MRC and funding the new Transfer Station Reserve, Moira Paddock seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

Jeff Northgraves made a motion to recommend taking $34,100 from surplus to fund:

Administration - $6,000

Planning Board - $700

Building & Grounds - $14,000

CEO & Plumbing - $500

Ambulance - $800

Town Roads - $11,000

Library - $400

Reserves = $700

Moira Paddock seconded. **Motion passed 7 – 0**.

Meeting adjourned at 4:12 PM

Respectfully submitted Gayle Gallant