

TOWN OF NEW BOSTON
New Boston Select Board Meeting

January 26, 2024

APPROVED

In attendance at Town Hall: Donna Mombourquette, William McFadden, Kary Jencks

A. CALL TO ORDER: The January 26, 2024 meeting was called to order by Donna Mombourquette at 5:36PM with a Pledge of Allegiance.

1st Public Comment

Donna Mombourquette stated that this is a business meeting of the New Boston Select Board. Comments and feedback are welcomed but because this is not a public forum or public hearing, comments will be on the agenda items only. Dialogue or answering of questions will not be part of the meeting. Should you have an issue you wish to discuss, please communicate with Maralyn Segien, Executive Assistant, who will contact the Select Board to answer your concern, or potentially schedule your appearance before the Board at a later date. The Board appreciates your understanding and cooperation.

Seeing no public in attendance, Donna Mombourquette closed the first session.

Warrant and Budget Discussion and Voting

Donna Mombourquette explained that during the public hearing there was discussion of all the budgets. Further adjustments downward in several Department budgets have since been made.

Kary Jencks entered the meeting.

The Board discussed the changes made to certain budget line items.

The new 2024 revised requested budget number was determined to be \$6,531,390. There was a discussion regarding the 2024 requested budget and the 2023 default budget. The FY23 default budget was \$5,815,453; the current default budget for 2024 is \$5,827,326. An increase of \$11,873. The requested budget is 12.3% higher than the default budget.

Kary Jencks moved to approve the 2024 revised requested operational budget of \$6,531,390 and the 2024 default budget is \$5,827,326. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

Kary Jencks moved to approve Article #6. Seconded by Donna Mombourquette. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #6: 3-0.

Bill McFadden moved to approve Article #7. Seconded by Donna Mombourquette.

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Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #7: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #8. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #8: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #9. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #9: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #10. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #10: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #11. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #11: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #12. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #12: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #13. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #13: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #14. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

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The Board recommended Warrant Article #14: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #15. Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Discussion: The Board amended one word within the explanation of the Article to be in the correct tense.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #15: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #16. Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #16: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #17. Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #17: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #18. Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #18: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #19. Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #19: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #20. Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #20: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #21. Seconded by Bill McFadden.

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Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #21: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #22. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #22: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #23. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #23: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #24. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #24: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #25. Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Discussion: A grammatical change was made.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #25: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #26. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #26: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #27. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #27: 3-0.

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Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #28.

Discussion:

Bill McFadden stated that the program could be helpful to the Town, but he has an issue with this being funded through the unassigned fund balance. He stated that he believes the unassigned fund balance should be for the Town's "needs" not "wants." He believes this should be funded through taxation if the Town votes to do so.

Jennifer Allocca noted that the estimated tax impact from this item is \$0.02.

Kary Jencks stated that she believes this could be an important tool for Staff but agreed that it may not be a Town priority this year, after coming from a default budget.

Donna Mombourquette stated that change is hard, and this program will lead to ultimately transparency and enhanced communication.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #28 as amended, by removing that funding come from the unassigned fund balance and adding a current year estimated tax impact of \$0.02. Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #28: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #29. Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #29: 3-0.

Donna Mombourquette moved to amend Article #30 with the following sentence, "To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,900 to be distributed to seven Human Service agencies that provide services in the New Boston community in the amounts requested by the following agencies for 2024..." Seconded by Bill McFadden.

Discussion:

Bill McFadden suggested removing the column that indicates what was appropriated for these agencies in 2023.

Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – nay; Donna Mombourquette – nay; and William McFadden – nay; 3-0-0 motion failed unanimously.

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Donna Mombourquette moved to approve Article #30 with the following amendments, “To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,900 to be distributed to seven Human Service agencies that provide services in the New Boston community in the amounts requested by the following agencies for 2024...” and the deletion of the 2023 funding column. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

The Board recommended Warrant Article #30: 3-0.

The Board discussed the upcoming Deliberative Session. The Board agreed to have a Department Manager meeting on Wednesday the 31st in order to prepare for Deliberative Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Kary Jencks moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:48pm. Seconded by Bill McFadden. Roll Call Vote: Kary Jencks – aye; Donna Mombourquette – aye; and William McFadden – aye; 3-0-0 motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristan Patenaude

Next Scheduled Meeting: January 29, 2024