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Town of Colebrook
Board of Finance

MAR 17 2023

Minutes to Meeting of March 8, 2023

COLEBROOKTOWN CLERK

Members Present

J. Millar
K. Adams
D. Bielefield
T. Hiller
D. Wilber

Absent

T. McKeon

Others Present

C. Johnstone
K. Kennedy
D. Johnstone

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Chairman J. Millar.

1. C. Johnstone presented the Selectmen's 2023-24 proposed budget, which seeks an increase of 7.5% over to \$2,481,918 (as revised the following day). The principal components of the increase are 3% salary increases for most staff members (Selectmen excluded), \$19,741; a 6.9% increase to health insurance \$13,494; double the cost of cyber insurance, \$20,745; town hall administrative support, \$9,520; road maintenance, \$15,000; and tree removal, \$40,000. Board members asked a number of questions about the budget but deferred action until the next meeting on March 15, when all of the proposed budgets can be considered in the context of an appropriate mill rate for 2023-24.
2. Also presented was the 2023-24 Capital Improvement Plan of \$550,000, an increase of \$100,000 over the current year, as recommended by the Capital Committee. The proposed plan includes \$250,000 for renovations to the Sandy Brook and Creamery Road bridges, \$100,000 as the town's share of a \$376,000 STEAP grant for road work, and \$150,000 for additional road work. It was noted that the project list initially submitted to the Capital Committee exceeded \$700,000, not including renovations to the Sandy Brook and Creamery Road bridges.
3. T. Hiller moved to approve the minutes of February 1, 2023. Second, K. Adams. Passed with the abstention of D. Bielefield, who was absent.
4. D. Bielefield moved to approve the minutes of February 15, 2023, subject to correction of a typographical error. Second, K. Adams. Passed with the abstention of J. Millar, who was absent.
5. D. Wilber moved to adjourn. Second, T. Hiller. Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James Millar
Chairman