

**Rindge Budget Advisory Committee**  
**MINUTES**  
**October 17, 2024**

**PRESENT**

Budget Advisory Members: Phil Motta, Tina Sbrega, Roberta Oeser, Bob Hamilton (Ex-officio), Dan Whitney, James Berger

Also attending: Tom Coneys, Kelen Geiger, Roni Hamilton

Phil called the meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 7:03 pm

Phil announced that the meeting was being recorded and live-streamed.

Phil announced that the budget process was pushed out 1 week. The new schedule and the minutes from the previous meeting were distributed.

Roberta stated that the budgets were not ready to be reviewed for the departments. She was told that the solid waste was going to increase. Discussion about the fee for dump stickers and disposing of items that require a punch card ensued. Consensus appeared to be that the BOS should consider raising them as they are 'user' fees and not everyone utilizes the transfer station.

James will review the Library budget. Casey will cover the land use boards and ConCom budgets.

Phil met with the Police Chief Malynoski and gave an over-view of the items that will affect the budget: adding a 10<sup>th</sup> officer to have more overlapping coverage, the need for additional tasers and to change weapons from .40 caliber to 9mm and to start evidence disposal at station. The animal control budget will decrease but there is still the need to take care of any animals kept at the shelter. Roberta mentioned that it perhaps should be replaced as it is in really bad condition. It was built by volunteers and perhaps that could happen again.

Minutes from September 19, 2024: Motion by Bob to approve. Second by Tina. Vote: 5-0-1. James abstained.

Dan inquired if Bob knew of anything going on in Concord that might affect the Town as far as funding. Roberta mentioned that there was an issue with the DOT funding as the state has only been paying the interest on hiway bonds and could have an impact on the money for paving.

Bob reviewed the BAC requests that he had relayed to the BOS as far as the budget process.

Phil reviewed the schedule for budget review. Roberta thought there should be a meeting prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> joint session to review what each member had learned about the respective departments budget requests.

Meeting schedule: October 30, November 14 and November 21  
These meetings are in addition to the joint sessions.

Discussed timing for the BAC to make its recommendation's to the BOS.

Short discussion on the expenditures for the current year which are at 72%.

Adjourned at 7:55 pm.

/Roberta Oeser