

**Salisbury Budget Committee**  
**Approved Meeting Minutes**  
**December 13, 2021**

A meeting of the Salisbury Budget Committee was held on Monday, December 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at Academy Hall.

Jason Hood, Chairman (2024)	Present	Marcia Murphy, Vice Chair (2023)	Present
David Kelly (2024)	Present	Bill MacDuffie, Sr. (2022)	Present
David Merwin (2022)	Absent	David Croft (2024)	Present
Jennifer Hoyt (2023)	Present	Velvet Sweeney (2023)	Present
Brett Walker, Selectman (2022)	Present	Jeff Blanchard (2022)	Present
April Rollins, Town Administrator	Present	Jennifer King, Recording Secretary	Present

**Public Attendees: Bill McDuffie Jr., Albert LaFlamme**

**Attending Via Zoom: Gayle Landry**

Chair Hood called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Approve Minutes

Chair Hood noted one correction to be made on the minutes. Chair Hood **motioned** to accept the draft meeting minutes of November 8, 2021 as amended. Brett Walker **seconded** the motion which passed unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEMS**

Budget Meetings with Department Heads

**4155 – Personnel Administration–\$15,620**

No discussion or questions asked.

Chair Hood **motioned** to approve the Personnel Administration budget line item 4155-05 (Payroll Taxes) at \$15,620. Brett Walker **seconded** the motion and it passed unanimously.

**4210 – Police – Line Item 4210-50 - \$25,000**

Brett Walker would like to increase this budget to \$33,500. This would give them a total of 8 hours of service from the State Police per week. David Croft supports the increase to \$33,500. He feels it is justified and needed. Traffic is increasing in town. We are one of two communities in Merrimack County that does not have their own police department. They are lucky to get the assistance they do from the State Police, and if they can get 4 more hours of that service, it's a lot cheaper than what they would be asking for if we hired our own personnel.

David Kelly **motioned** to increase the Police budget to \$33,500. David Croft **seconded** the motion which passed with 2 opposed (Sweeney/Murphy).

#### **4215 - Ambulance- Line item 4215-07: \$81,760**

No discussion or questions asked.

Chair Hood **motioned** to approve the Ambulance line item 4215-07 (Outside ambulance service & billing) \$81,760. Brett Walker **seconded** the motion which passed unanimously.

#### **4323 – Recycling –\$2,601**

Level-funded budget. No discussion or questions asked.

Chair Hood **motioned** to approve the Recycling budget at \$2,601.00. Brett Walker **seconded** the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### **4324 – Transfer Station – \$115,407**

Brett Walker explained that they received contract numbers from Casella for waste transportation services. He also received a proposed contract from NRRA which showed an additional increase of approximately \$4,500. He contacted them to determine what services they provide. They basically act as a broker between the town and the waste services contractors (trash hauling, metals, etc.). Because the Transfer Station Manager can make these contacts on his own, he doesn't really feel that it is necessary to continue their contract with NRRA. Discussion occurred regarding the rates for Demo debris & disposal vs. what they charge residents for taking these items, as well as the costs for container rental/hauling/tipping.

Chair Hood **motioned** to approve the Transfer Station Projects budget at \$115,407. Jennifer Hoyt **seconded** the motion and it passed unanimously.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Jeff Blanchard asked for an explanation regarding the inclusion of funds for the VNA and CASA.

Chair Hood explained that the \$500 for CASA and the \$2,000 for the VNA are donations. Brett Walker added that both agencies serve the town, and their budgets are developed by soliciting donations from the communities they serve. They aren't required to fund them, but if they aren't receiving their annual donations, then they

have to cut services, which would affect them. David Croft noted that CASA's work is also important to law enforcement.

Jeff Blanchard feels that it is inappropriate for the municipality to make donations to non-profits and then bill the taxpayers.

Jeff Blanchard motioned to reconsider the donations to CASA and VNA. The motion was not seconded.

The next meeting will be held on January 10, 2022 at 7 p.m.

Chair Hood **motioned** to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Blanchard **seconded** the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer King, Recording Secretary