



**Office of Board of Selectmen
Town of Mason**

16 Darling Hill Road – Mann House
Mason, New Hampshire 03048
(603) 878-2070 (603) 878-4892 Fax

Selectmen Meeting 11/14/2023

Approved Minutes

Present: Selectmen Kate Batcheller, John Suiter; Admin Asst Jen Tenney; Accountant Brenda Wiley; Library Director Judy Forty

Absent: Selectman Charlie Moser

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:50pm by Chair Kate Batcheller, attendance was taken by roll call as reflected above.

Approvals:

- Noted that the accounts payable and payroll manifests had been reviewed and approved prior to the meeting.
- Minutes of 10/24/2023 BOS / PD meeting - Kate motioned to approve as written, second from John. Roll call vote Kate-aye, Charlie-absent, John-aye.
- Minutes of 10/24/2023 BOS / FD meeting - Kate motioned to approve as written, second from John. Roll call vote Kate-aye, Charlie-absent, John-aye.
- Minutes of 10/24/2023 BOS meeting - Kate motioned to approve as written, second from John. Roll call vote Kate-aye, Charlie-absent, John-aye.
- Minutes of 10/31/2023 BOS special meeting - Kate motioned to approve as written, second from John. Roll call vote Kate-aye, Charlie-absent, John-aye.

New Business:

- Met with Judy to review the proposed 2024 budget. Judy discussed how the library is back to pre-Covid attendance.
 - Visitors - Over 100 children can visit the library in a day. Last month over 500 people visited the library.
 - Circulated items – The number of items that leave the library is higher than pre-Covid. Multiple times a week the Elementary School classes visit the library; more than 75 items can be circulated within these 20-minute visits.

- Judy shared the following information regarding the number of circulated items:
 - 2015 – 6,027 items
 - 2020 – 2,800 items
 - 2021 – 2,700 items
 - 2022 – 5,900 items
 - 2023 – 6,100 items year to date
- Activities – The library offers weekly and monthly activities and classes, as well as weekly tot-time, curbside craft pick-up and partakes in many holiday and town events.
- Due to the above points, the proposed budget does include an increase to the “Supplies”, “Programming” and “Books” line items.
- Also due to the above points the Library Trustees have approved a wage correction for the current library employees. According to the State of NH wage report data, as well as data collected from surrounding comparable towns, the library employee’s wages were much lower than other positions that are completing similar work tasks, programming and with a similar attendance.
- Reviewed remainder of submitted proposed 2024 budgets – will discuss further at the next regularly scheduled meeting.
- Kate motioned to approve the Hollis-Mason 2024-2026 Dispatching Agreement, second from John. Roll call vote Kate-aye, Charlie-absent, John-aye.
- Kate motioned to contribute \$160.50 from line item “Health Other” to MCVP Crisis & Prevention Center, second from John. Roll call vote Kate-aye, Charlie-absent, John-aye.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Kate motioned to adjourn, second from John. Roll call vote Kate-aye, Charlie-absent, John-aye. Meeting adjourned at 9:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jennifer Tenney
BOS Administrative Assistant