

FY'24 BUDGET WORKSHOP

The Board continued its work on the draft FY'24 budget. The Board discussed the Planning Commission Special Projects Fund. Unspent funds in this line item are carried over. When the fund was originally set up, a former Selectboard stated that the Board may choose not budget funds if there is a growing balance. The current balance in the fund is approximately \$26,000. Melissa pointed out that the funds are earmarked for projects that span more than one year and for matching funds for grants. Of the \$26,000 approximately \$2,600 are not earmarked. After careful consideration, the Selectboard reduced Special Projects Fund line item by \$4,000 for FY'24.

The Library's proposed budget is increasing by 9.7%. The Board discussed how they may reduce the amount being included in the budget without impacting the services and programs offered. The Board decided to reduce the Library's request by \$4,000 and to allocate \$4,000 from ARPA Funds for allowed expenses during FY'24.

The Board discussed the amount budgeted for the Sheriff's Department for speed enforcement. A frequent topic at Selectboard meetings is the speed and volume of traffic on town roads. One way to address the concerns is to increase the hours the Sheriff's Department is patrolling Westford roads. The current budget is \$20,000. The Board increased the amount to \$26,500 for FY'24.

The Board reviewed the anticipated revenue. Bill suggested that the Town include revenue for the forestry work being done in the Maple Shade Town Forest. The work is expected to last a year or two. Greg will determine an amount based on what has been received in the past. Bill suggested that the Town look into interest-bearing CDs to invest town funds. Lee and Dave agreed. Greg will look into this and report back to the Board.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

COMMUNICATION

There was no outgoing communication.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lee McClenny, Chair
Selectboard

Nanette Rogers
Town Administrator