

TOWN OF WARREN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC BUDGET FORUM
02/23/2021

The Warren Selectboard is hosting an Informational Budget Forum on 2/23/2021 to discuss the proposed FY21 budget.

The forum provides an opportunity for the public to participate, with the budget to be determined by Australian (paper) ballot due to COVID-19 – rather than a vote from the floor on Town Meeting Day.

The forum will be held remotely via Zoom on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 7:00 PM. For Zoom links and the budget documents, please visit www.warrenvt.org or email cjones@warrenvt.org.

Agenda

7:00 PM Public Comment

7:05 Covid Update -Jeff Campbell

7:15 Video Presentation of Town of Warren Budget – Robert Ackland followed by public questions

8:00 Other Business Payroll 46,731.52, AIP 43,621.12

****Agenda Subject to Change**** Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: <https://us04web.zoom.us/meeting/uZErf-6sqz8ooB1DfOMkLTV6yElzCsJag/ics?icsToken=98tyKu2tqDMtHtGRslztd7QvW9r-b-G5jTxBiPJ5mjDlCAXnVFXvE-5YEaF1Ed>

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/456874542>

Meeting ID: 456 874 542

One tap mobile

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Dial by your location +1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

Meeting ID: 456 874 542

Find your local number: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/456874542>

Minutes of February 23, 2021

Warren Selectboard

7:00 PM

VIA Zoom

Public Budget Forum Informational Meeting

Members present: Andrew Cunningham, Chair, Bob Ackland, Vice Chair, Randy Graves, Luke Youmell & Camilla Behn.

Others Present: Dave Campanelli, Alice Rodgers, Gene Bifano, Maxine Grad, Kari Dolan, Kaziah Haviland, Dave Ellison, Hadley Laskowski VR, Tony TV 44/45, Connie Coleman, Eric Brattstrom, Dotty Kyle, Jeff Campbell, Mark Giometti, Sam Starks, Mac Rood, Dayna Lisaius, Sharon? and Cindi Jones.

Mr. Cunningham opened the Public Budget Informational Meeting addressing the public that there would be no Town Meeting due to the pandemic and all the articles are being voted on by Australian ballot. The poles are open from 7:00AM-7:00 PM at the Warren Town Hall Basement on Town Meeting Day. Voters may also request an absentee ballot from the Warren Town Clerk.

6:00 PM – Public Comment – Mr. Youmell wanted to remind the public that the Selectboard had passed a mandatory wearing of masks order in public buildings and in spaces where you cannot get the 6' distancing. The Governor had also passed a required mask wearing order as well.

6:05 PM – Legislative Updates – Kari Dolan and Maxine Grad – Each representative gave a presentation on what they are doing on the committees they serve. Information is available on the State of Vermont Legislative website and also available in the Valley Reporter.

Mr. Ellison asked how the State is going to replace the funding for maintaining the roads as it is currently funded by the gas tax if Vermont pushes towards electric vehicles on how are they going to pay for the use of the roads. They currently don't pay anything now towards the road maintenance. Ms. Grad commented that it is a current discussion going on about that issue.

7:25 PM – Covid Update – Jeff Campbell – Report Attached.

7:31 PM – Budget Hearing Forum – Mr. Cunningham started the informational meeting off by going through all the reports for any questions. There were no comments on the reports submitted. He then started out with the warning reading each Article 1 – "Shall the Town vote a budget of \$3,274,738, to meet the expenses and liabilities of the Town including the Capital expenditures and to authorize the Selectboard to set a tax rate sufficient to provide the same?" Prior to questions the Budget Video was presented by Mr. Ackland on the budget changes.

Questions: Mr. Campanelli wanted to know how the Delinquent Town Clerk was funded. Mr. Cunningham explained that it is funded by the penalties that she collects for the delinquent taxes.

On Call Highway – What is that? Mr. Ackland explained that the highway crew get paid for carrying a beeper when they are on call to check roads, etc.

Over Time – How does that work and where funded? - Mr. Ackland commented that it is included in the salary highway line and a certain amount of OT hours are funded for each crew member.

DPW Position – Mr. Ackland commented that the board decided it was not needed going forward in his budget video presentation. Mr. Campanelli wanted clarification if that meant not in 2022, 2023 and the future. Mr. Cunningham commented that the board has not made any decisions about this for the future.

Mr. Stark asked for clarification on the Capital Budget – The board directed him to page 25 that shows the projected allocations, the projected expenditures and the balance of each Capital Account.

Mr. Bifano asked about the Town Mapping GIS program. He commented that it needed a project plan on updates as he sees errors in the program. Mr. Ackland commented that there were two things about the mapping: 1) an operational part and 2) GIS Mapping Updates. The Town contracts with a company (CDM) to house the information on a server and to update the program with changes that are found. Ms. Behn commented that there are very few companies that do this type of work and that they have many clients that they service. We are not able to do updates in house and any information that needs changing Mike Kelly, GIS Coordinator, sends down once a month for them to update.

Mr. Bifano asked about the Stand Pipe Account – Why is there not a stand pipe at Blueberry lake? Mr. Cunningham commented that he should ask Mr. Alan Hartshorn on the fire department as he is in charge of the standpipes.

Article 4 – Mad River Valley Ambulance Request – Mr. Giamatti, a first responder and a resident of Warren commented that this is part 2 of asking money from the Towns to replace the 3rd vehicle in the fleet at a cost of about \$300,000. This is the last time that the request will be made of the Towns. Mr. Campanelli asked why? Mr. Giometti commented that this volunteer service is very fortunate to have overwhelming support of donations, subscriptions and the money they receive from other entities that they will be back to being a self-sustaining entity. Mr. Giometti commented that MRVAS has a website that has information about the containing information about the service. The Mad River Valley Ambulance wanted to say thank you to all the taxpayers for their support of this valuable service to the Mad River Valley.

Article 6 – Mad River Valley Coalition request of \$4,000. – Mr. Rood who services on this committee explained that the appropriation is helping to fund a part-time position. Ms. Kaziah Haviland who works for the Coalition in many different facets, such as finding grants/money, initiate public hearings on the issue of affordable housing in the Valley, helping people find housing that is affordable. They have helped with at least 3 ADU's with some money of \$10,000 so that it encourages landowners to create affordable dwellings with low rental initiatives to help working families here in the family. Mr. Rood commented that the median home prices in Washington County were \$210,000 in Waitsfield they are around \$325,000 and in Warren \$400,000. Mr. Rood also stated that about 65% of the people working in the Valley are travelling outside the Valley to work here.

This allocation is to fund their effort to create local housing solutions to the Mad River Valley affordable housing challenge through the creation of programs that incentivized new rental units; assistance to municipalities in developing housing policy; exploration of a dedicated housing trust fund; incorporation of community feedback; and collaborating with individuals and developers on projects that meet that varied needs of the Mad River Valley housing market. It is a challenging situation and the Coalition hopes that all the Valley Towns will continue to support their efforts.

Connie Coleman wanted to thank the Town of Warren for its continued support to the Central Vermont Home Health & Hospice of \$4,000.

Mr. Cunningham read the last few articles of the warning and there were no more questions concerning the warning or the budget.

9:07 PM – Other business

Mr. Cunningham commented that there was some summer guidance about gatherings and festivals that just came out making the 4th of July a little more hopeful.

9:10 PM – Approval of Payroll Warrants – Motion by Mr. Ackland to approve the payroll warrants as presented for \$46,731.52, second by Mr. Youmell. All in Favor: VOTE: 5-0.

9:11 PM - Approval of Accounts Payable Warrants – Motion by Mr. Ackland to approve the accounts payable warrants as presented for \$43,621.12, second by Mr. Youmell. All in Favor: VOTE: 5-0.

9:12 PM – Approval of Minutes for February 16, 2021 – Motion by Mr. Youmell to approve the Minutes of February 16, 2021, second by Mr. Ackland. All in Favor: VOTE: 5-0.

9:13 PM – Motion by Mr. Ackland to adjourn, second by Mr. Youmell. All in Favor: VOTE: 5-0.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,
Cindi Jones, Warren Town Administrator

The Warren Selectboard

Andrew Cunningham, Chair

Bob Ackland, Vice Chair

Luke Youmell

Randy Graves

Camilla Behn

Signature: andrew cunningham
andrew.cunningham (Mar 16, 2021 13:24 EDT)
Email: propertymanagement@gmavt.net

Signature: Luke Youmell
Luke Youmell (Mar 17, 2021 06:47 EDT)
Email: luke@birddogvt.com

Signature: Randall Graves
Randall Graves (Mar 17, 2021 14:52 EDT)
Email: turnradius@gmail.com

Signature: Robert M Ackland
Robert M Ackland (Mar 16, 2021 15:03 EDT)
Email: ackland@gmavt.com

Signature: Camilla W Behn
Camilla W Behn (Mar 17, 2021 13:31 EDT)
Email: ccbehn@gmavt.com












Minutes of February 23, 2021


2021-03-17

Final Audit Report


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By:	Cindi Jones (cjones@warrenvt.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAAjklyxkcWEbErtBlc17QRoal81GBxsp0U

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 Agreement completed.

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