

43 was a 7.92% increase. This was achieved by changing the PT to FT position and any other wage
44 increases for an effective date of July 1 instead of January 1. Michael commended the group for
45 looking to reinvent the library. Deb also explained that they plan on working more with other
46 town departments, such as the recent co-sponsored storytelling event with the Recreation
47 Department. Michael asked about the significant bank fees that the library was faced with last
48 year. Peter Stock explained that the issue had been resolved with the bank without additional
49 fees. There was a discussion regarding the difference in prices for hard cover books, audio books,
50 and digital books. Digital books are the most expensive, so you get less titles for the same amount
51 of money, but that is what people are looking for now. The Trustees said that they are part of a
52 regional cooperative with the Plaistow and Atkinson libraries as well, so people can access all
53 three locations. Tina said that the library has held the operating budget to 0% increases for
54 several years, but that is starting to show. The Budget Committee had received several different
55 copies of budget proposals and was having a hard time putting all the pieces together. Lee made
56 **a motion** to table the budget until a revised requested budget is in the standard format for
57 comparison. Lorna **seconded the motion**. The consensus of the Committee was to look at the
58 budget again at the December 6 meeting with the Parks & Recreation budget. Michael
59 commented that the Trustees had admitted that a lot of people don't know what the library can
60 do for them and it is hard to sell that to people who don't know. Deb stated that they have
61 started to increase their presence in the community already and will continue to do so. They
62 have launched a new e-newsletter. Jim questioned why the expenses for bank fees is listed under
63 "other" instead of bank fees. Deb said that she had wanted that to stand out on its own because
64 it is fees associated with direct deposit processing and should be considered a personnel expense.
65 Lee re-stated his **motion** to table action on the Library budget until the December 6 meeting.
66 Lorna **seconded** the re-stated motion. All voted in favor except Michael, who abstained. **Motion**
67 **carried**. Lee asked the Trustees what their plan is if the budget is default. Deb said they will have
68 to re-look at how often she can be doing outreach because they must always be at least two
69 people at the library. They would have to pick and choose what programs they would offer, but
70 some programming would suffer. Sue asked if the library could accomplish their plan with the
71 proposed 7.92% increase. Deb said yes, but they couldn't do it all if the 4% Board of Selectmen
72 increase passed. The Trustees will do whatever they can with whatever figure is passed. They
73 will do the best they can to bring the library up to modern standards. Diana pointed out that
74 based on the \$332,328 budget, that is only .42 cents on the taxes. The original proposal of
75 \$352,298 would be .44 cents. The 2017 budget is .39 cents, so the difference isn't really very big.

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77 **Highway/Sanitation Budgets Review**

78 Artie Genuardo was present and apologized for missing the last meeting he was scheduled to
79 attend.

80

81 **Highway Facility #4311**

82 Artie said that the telephone line is currently spent at \$865 and the Committee had reduced the
83 2018 budget to \$850. He explained that is a land line and his cell phone included in that line. Lee
84 said the Committee had thought that it was just a land line. Cheryl said the current actuals cover

85 through November 10. Lee **made a motion** to adjust the telephone line from \$850 to \$1,000.
86 **Motion seconded** by Fran. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.** Lee made **a motion** to accept the
87 Highway Facility budget #4311 with gross expenses of \$7,600, revenue of zero, and net expenses
88 of \$7,600, pending further review. **Motion seconded** by Sue. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.**
89 Jim asked why the heating oil line had increased when they are burning used waste oil. Artie
90 explained that he tries to use only waste oil, but there are only a handful of people that do repairs
91 on the used oil burners and the parts can take a long time to get. Last year the furnace broke
92 down and was down for a month and a half. During that time, he had to use regular heating oil
93 that is more expensive.

94

95 **Highway Operating #4312**

96 Artie said that the Committee had reduced the Tree Removal line to \$5,000. He has no problem
97 with that except that if there is a major wind or snow storm and he needs to rent bucket trucks
98 or other large equipment he doesn't have, it can get very costly. The Seminars line was reduced
99 to \$250. This coming year he will need to have two employees recertified as flaggers and another
100 one going for flagging for the first time. He will also have training needs for himself regarding
101 the MS4 Storm-water Management Permit. Lee commented that recertification fees for Highway
102 employees to be used as back-ups at the transfer station should be included in the Recycling
103 budget, not the Highway budget. The consensus of the Committee was to leave the seminars at
104 \$250, but add to the Recycling seminars line. Michael asked if Artie was OK with reducing the
105 Mandatory House Numbering line to \$1. Artie was.

106

107 **Recycling #4326**

108 Lee **made a motion** to adjust the seminars line from \$1,200 to \$1,400. **Motion seconded** by Sue.
109 All voted in favor. **Motion carried.** Artie said that the reduction in the Disposal line to \$30,000
110 would not be enough. The rates were increased as of July 1, 2017. Artie went through the
111 charges for each type of disposal and the quantity. He projects the total to be around \$46,000.
112 He added that we recently had 80 new families added on Wells Village Road and there will be
113 about 40 more house lots coming soon. Artie is concerned with non-residents using the transfer
114 station at a cost to the taxpayers. He is going to start a new sticker program after the holidays.
115 Artie will be the person applying the stickers to cars and he may further require a building permit
116 in order dump construction and demolition items. Lee made **a motion** to increase the Recycling
117 Disposal line to \$34,000. **Motion seconded** by Fran. All voted in favor. **Motion carried.** Lee
118 **made a motion** to accept the Recycling budget #4326 with gross expenses of \$91,351, revenue
119 of \$18,000, and net expenses of \$73,351, pending further review. **Motion seconded** by Sue. All
120 voted in favor. **Motion carried.**

121

122 **Sanitation Operating #4321-29**

123 Artie explained that the waste disposal rates went up to \$63.10 per ton. Bulky waste has gone
124 up to \$74.98 per ton. Artie is going to meet with the Board of Selectmen regarding replacing the
125 compactors. New ones would be able to push a lot more trash together than the old ones, which

126 will save by having more trash in each load, since there is a set fee for each load removed
127 regardless of the tonnage. Artie is fine with all other aspects of the budgets.

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129 At 8:30, Michael adjourned the meeting.

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Minutes respectfully Submitted,

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Cheryl Eastman

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