

**Town of Gouldsboro
Budget Committee Meeting
Jan. 15, 2025
Gouldsboro Town Office**

Committee Members Present:

Dwight Rodgers, Chair
Larry Peterson, Vice-Chair
AJ Higgins, Secretary
Ray Jones
Roger Dean
Eve Wilkinson
Jay Bricker
Brenda Young
Tim Smith
Paul Stewart

Members Absent:

None

Town Manager:

Josh McIntyre
(Absent)

Number of Guests:

None

Approval of minutes from Dec. 4, 2024

MOTION: Approved as written YES [] NO [X]

Approved as amended YES [X] NO []

Motion: Ray Jones; 2nd Tim Smith

Unanimous

Discussion:

PROCESS: Chairman Dwight Rodgers called the Gouldsboro Budget Committee meeting to order at 5 p.m. Board members discussed how Chair Rodgers should proceed with the Jan. 16 Selectboard (BOS) meeting. Discussion topics included seeking more detail on what kind of process the BOS would like to employ during the upcoming budget sessions. General confusion over whether the Standard Operating Guideline (SOG) preliminarily adopted by the BC would be used.

WARRANT ARTICLES: The BC agreed that outdated and conflicting Warrant Articles passed at previous town meetings (some going back decades) may no longer be relevant to the budget

process .For example, some may direct the town to place all other funds into a reserve account and erroneously include balances that more appropriately should be transferred to the town's general fund. The BC concluded that the best way to handle the issue would be through the creation of a three-member team consisting of Chair Rodgers, the town manager and a BOS designee to review the historic record of pertinent warrant articles.

MOTION: To create the new warrant article review team.

Motion: Larry Peterson; 2nd A.J. Higgins

Unanimous

YEAR-TO-DATE-EXPENDITURES: As the town nears mid-point in the current budget cycle, Roger Dean said his analysis of current town spending indicates that 52.6 percent of allocated funds have been expended indicating the town is "about where it should be."
Departmental spending ranged from a high of 59.7 percent for the town property account to 31.88 percent for animal control.

INSURANCE LINES: Many committee members remain confused over the assignment of insurance estimates and would be willing to explore a different process as they try to assign budget estimates for that purpose. Eve Wilikinson said that she believed that a representative from the Maine Municipal Association might be willing to make a presentation to the BOS and BC to bring some clarity to the issue. BC generally agreed on the need for such a meeting.

Next Budget Committee Meeting: Feb. 5, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

MOTION: Meeting Adjourned: 6:01 p.m. Roger Dean; 2nd Ray Jones

Respectfully submitted: AJ Higgins, Secretary