



8 November 2023

JOINT MEETING OF THE SELECTBOARD & BUDGET COMMITTEE

In attendance:

Selectboard: Tracy Wyman, Cecil Reniche-Smith, Heather Nelson, Tim Guiles, Brian Coolidge.

Budget committee: Tricia Welch, Barry Varian, Jan Coolidge, Neil Silins, Doug Bailey, Peter Werner.

Others: David Kachajian, Jackie Savela, Ralph Ethier, Dorothea Langevin, Brent Beuhler, Bill Moore, Seth Hopkins

Town of Brandon
49 Center St
Brandon, VT
05733

SELECTBOARD

Tracy Wyman
Chair

Cecil Reniche-Smith
Vice-chair

Heather Nelson
Clerk

Tim Guiles
Selectman

Brian Coolidge
Selectman

1 Meeting was called to order by Tracy Wyman, chair, at 7PM. On motion of Heather Nelson and second by Tim Guiles the agenda as warned was adopted for the meeting, 5-0.

2 In advance of the meeting, town manager Seth Hopkins had provided a first draft recommended budget as well as an overview essay, staffing references, VLCT recommendations regarding ARPA, and steering options for spending.

The Public Safety Mission of the Town was the focus of this workshop. Chief David Kachajian made his presentation to the board, following which the board chair facilitated question-and-answer periods with the board, budget committee, and public. Two items that drew considerable deliberation were a recommendation in the town manager's budget to enter into lease-purchase agreements for two electric cruisers to replace the most deficient internal combustion cruisers, and the relative costs and benefits of on-call/call-in/overtime staffing versus hiring an additional officer with the expense that entails for salary and a full benefits package. Town management was directed to develop hard numbers on these alternatives.

3 On motion of Brian Coolidge and second by Cecil Reniche-Smith a not-debatable motion to adjourn passed by a vote of 5-0.

Adjournment came at 8:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Seth M. Hopkins.

Seth Hopkins, town manager