

**Town of Hill  
Budget Committee  
2025 Budget**

**10/30/24 Meeting Minutes**

**Members Present:** Bruce Blazon (Chair), Marshall Bennett (V. Chair), Betty Hanks, Frank Simeone, Joann Irving, Bill Machado, Carol Asher-Snow (Ex-Officio), Shaun Bresnahan (Sec/Ex-Officio),

**Members Absent:** Tom Angeley - excused

**Public:** December Fortin, Niki Mahoney, Michelle Munson, Dr. Brian Connolly

Bruce Blazon called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

The minutes from the 10/23/24 meeting were reviewed. Shaun mentioned that the Town Clerk budget numbers need to be amended as follows: Election Expense \$5,300; Total \$74,583 and Increase of \$859. Marshall made a motion to approve minutes as amended; Frank seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously (7-0; 1 abstain)

Parks and Recreation (P&R) budget is presented by December Fortin and Niki Mahoney.

P&R proposed budget is \$47 more than 2024 Appropriation; the major increases are as follows.

- \$397 Increase for membership to Tapply-Thomas Community Center (TTCC).

Major decreases include:

- \$350 decrease to Park Maintenance; no need for additional rubber mulch.

Joann asked about the electricity line, to date about 50% has been spent? Niki replied the total is as of 9/14/24, there will additional charges to complete the year. Will see what the yearly expense is and adjust if needed.

Joann asked how the does the TTCC bill the town? The town is billed twice a year.

Joann asked bout the number of kids using the TTCC? Niki replied that JD Blake student go there after school. The school bus drops them off and parents pick them up. Dr. Connolly made these arrangements, about 20 kids (and parents) take advantage of this. Marshall uses this for his son. Cost is \$50/week and his son really enjoys this.

Frank makes a motion to accept the P&R 2024 proposed budget; Marshall seconds the motion. Motion passes unanimously (8-0)

Dr. Connolly presents the 2024-25 School Year Budget.

The current draft is a \$11,959 decrease from the 2023-24 proposed budget. This is subject to change, they are still waiting for Newfound to prepare High School and Middle school Tuition numbers. These should be ready in about 2 weeks so there maybe a change in the total. The major increases are as follows.

- 1210 Special Ed increase of \$80,783; direct result of student EDP's.
- 2122 Guidance increase \$5,025; need to hire a new counselor.
- 2134 Nursing increase of \$2,708; need to hire a new nurse.
- 2140 Physiological Services increase of \$6,000; increased cost for service expense. This line was significantly under budget for 2024.
- 2162 Physical Therapy increase of \$1,000; increased need for services.
- 2163 Occupational Therapy increase of \$1,000; increased need for services.
- 2410 Office of Principal increase of \$19,052; increase in retirement 403b contribution and reimbursement for tuition for teachers continuing education.
- 2721 Vehicle Operation – Regular ED increase of \$4,008; haven't received updated price, this represent a 5% increase for budgeting.
- 3120 Food Service increase of \$13,983; once again there is a question on how this service will be provided. Expense covers the possibility of contracting school lunches.

Major decreases include:

- 1100 Regular Ed decrease of \$118,065; Decrease in number of students attending Newfound but there still isn't a tuition rate for this budget year as of this draft of budget.
- 2640 Care of Equipment decrease of \$32,000; this wasn't addressed in presentation.
- 2725 Vehicle Operation – Field Trip decrease of \$2,010; reduced by one field trip.
- 5221 Transfer to Food Service decrease of \$6,694; anticipated amount based on last years service.

Joann asked if teachers seek continuing education get increase in pay? Dr. Connolly said no, this is a benefit teachers can take advantage of.

Current school population is (35) High School, (15) Middle School, (64) JD Blake and (9) Pre-K with (3) from out of town. Pre-K tuition for out of town student is \$200/month. Looking to increase this to a fair market tuition.

Bruce asked if there any revenue streams for the SAU. Dr. Connolly said there are none. Last years interest was a special circumstance because of Newfound cyberattack.

Bruce suggest we hold off on a vote since there are still is no tuition rate. The committee can make a vote when the School Board feels they have a final budget.

Joann asked about stairs to ball field. Shaun replied that grades where shot by Gregg Paradise and Frank Crandall of Currier Road who is a landscape architect is drafting a design. When this is done the selectmen and school boards will have to determine how this project is paid for.

Marshall commented that he is concerned with the amount of money the FD is budgeting for protective gear when they still haven't hired a full complement of fire fighters.

Betty makes a motion to adjourn at 7:45 PM; Shaun seconds motion. Motion passes unanimously (8-0)

Respectfully Submitted  
Shaun Bresnahan; Secretary