Town of Boscawen Advisory Budget Committee Public Meeting Boscawen Municipal Complex January 19, 2023

Present: Ed Cherian, Chair, Dale Randall, Gary Tillman, Rhoda Hardy, Peg Daneau, Lorrie Carey, Matthew Burdick, Katie Phelps, Kevin Wyman, Dean Hollins, Gary Moore, Nicole Hoyt, Kellee Jo Easler, Sarah Gerlack, Tim Kenney, Jason Killary, Kate Merrill, Bonny John, Kearsten O'Brien.

Ed Cherian, Chair started the meeting at 6:28 pm. Roll Call completed by Finance Director Kate Merrill.

Nomination of Chair – A motion to nominate Ed Cherian as Chair was made by Gary Tillman, seconded by Dale Randall, and passed by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Tillman motioned to defer the 01.27.22 draft minutes to the February 2, 2023 Advisory Budget Committee meeting. Seconded by Chair Cherian. All in favor. None opposed.

Rhoda Hardy was re-appointed to the Advisory Budget Committee and sworn in.

Ed Cherian gave an overview of how the meeting would run and what they would like to accomplish this evening. Chairwoman Lorrie Carey explained that the Select Board would give a broad overview of the budget and then go into more detail.

Acct #/Name	2023 Budget	Notable Changes for 2023
		6% Cost of Living Adjustment
4130 Executive	\$209,822 – Increase of	6% COLA Adjustments for all staff. Step increase
	10% or \$19,690.00	for Town Administrator. Code Enforcement Officer
		salary increased 10% or \$500 due to 2022 actuals
		and projected need. Asst to the Administrator
		position decreased from 25% to 5% resulting in an
		\$8,666 decrease. Reduced Contracted Services &
		Agreements \$500. Computer Licenses, Software &
		Hardware has a proposed \$10,300 increase due to
		upgrading all computers to Microsoft 365
		subscriptions. This also includes 11 Adobe Pro
		subscriptions. IT Labor increase of \$7,000 due to
		upgrades to software on all computers. Equipment
		Non-Computer increased to replace 2 Town Clerk
		printers in 2023. Office supplies increasing due to
		inflation.
4140 Town Clerk/Elections	\$104,376.00- Decrease	Decrease of 27% in overtime based on expected
	of 2% or \$2,201.00	need. Moderator and Supervisors line decreased
		44% based on number of elections. TC Printing and

		Town Reports reduced 41% based on quote. Vital Records and Town Historian reduced.
4150 Financial Administration	\$104,604.00- Increase of 11% or \$10,675.00	Assistant line was added back in for a full year's salary. Position was not budgeted for total year as position was open for the beginning of the year. Meetings and Travel increased to allow for both staff members within the department to participate in trainings and events. Office supplies for department were broken out of Executive budget and put within the department. Increase in Miscellaneous expenses to account for employee & volunteer events.
4151 Tax Collector	\$82,884.00- Increase of 7% or \$5,652.00	Equipment and Software was decreased 9% based on current costs. Lien Expenses was reduced 31% based on 2022 actuals. Meetings and Travel was adjusted to ensure all employees in the department attend trainings.
4152 Assessing	\$95,450.00- Increase of 24% or \$18,208.00	Staffing Merit & labor distribution changes, moved mapping into Kiosk.
4153 Legal Expenses	\$52,000.00- Increase of 16% or \$7,000.00	Town Counsel increased by \$5,000 based upon 2022 actuals. There is a new expense line for legal book purchases/updates.
4155 Personnel Administration	\$1,106,757.00- Increase of 21% or \$188,635.00	6 % COLA and salary adjustments increased taxes, retirement, vacation buyouts and insurance budget lines. 11.7% increase in health insurance rates, employee contribution doubled. Plan changes and addition of employees also played a role in health insurance increase. New line in 2023 for employee dental insurance.
4191 Planning & Community Development	\$141,647.00- Increase of 4% or 5,367.00	Staffing Merit & labor distribution changes, 1 year holiday for Imtek due to 3-year contact, encumbered funds for 4191555 & Grant with InvestNH, normally \$7,500-10,000 for ZO & Planning.
4193 Agricultural Commission	\$1,700.00- No Change	No Change
4194 Town Buildings	\$224,557.00- Increase of 11% or \$21,630.00	The increase in the 2023 Facilities budget is due exclusively to a 77% increase in electricity and 3.2% increase in natural gas. The department was able to offset some of this cost by reducing costs in wages, tax deeded properties and contracts and service agreements. As a note of interest, the 3 unused, unoccupied buildings, 1913 Library, Torrent Bldg. and Town Hall have a total 2023 maintenance budget of \$13,900. In addition, the 1913 Library had repair work done last year for an additional

		\$9,000, and the Torrent Bldg. had a new roof at a
		cost of \$32,000.
4195 Cemeteries	\$3,000.00- No Change	No Change
4196 Property Liability Insurance	\$50,706.00- Increase of 30% or \$11,685.00	9% overall increase from 2022. Shows as a 30% increase due to a decrease in our payment holiday amount to offset 2023.
4199 Other General Government	\$7,500.00 Increase- New budget item	Contingency will remain the same at \$33,000. New expense line per the CIP for a Commercial St Historical exhibit which will be add \$7,500 to the budget for 2023 and 2024.
4210 Police Department	\$781,172.00- Increase of \$16% or \$107,360.00	The Police Department added a new position in 2022 which was funded by ARPA money. The 2023 budget reflects a whole year's salary for this new position. Computer expenses increased due to the annual costs associated with body cameras and incar technology.
4215 Ambulance	\$250,192.00- Increase of 8% or \$18,532.00	This reflects an 8% overall increase from last year. This increase is due to market adjustments to our pay scales and the Federal COLA of 8.7%.
4220 Fire Department	\$212,432.00- Increase of 1% or \$3,015.00	11% decrease to hose appliance maintenance as ARPA money was used to purchase equipment. 24% decrease to turnout gear as there is less to replace in 2023. Utilities are increased based on a 77% estimated increase. 100% increase in EMS expenses as \$500 was left off last year's budget by mistake. Money moved around in budget lines where needed that show increases and decreases.
4240 Life Safety Officer	\$3,100- Decrease of 14% or \$500.00	Decreased based on need
4290 Emergency Management	\$10,949.00- Decrease of 30% or \$4,625.00	Meetings and Travel line increased to budget for a recording secretary for meetings. Telephone budget line was removed. Emergency Operations Plan and Hazard Mitigation update paid for by grant funding.
4312 Highways & Streets	\$598,652.00- Decrease of .1% or \$702.00	Longevity increases, cola and step increases. Decrease in road resurfacing and offsetting the decrease with the one-time extra payout of the highway block grant funds from the State of NH
4316 Street Lighting	\$72,480.00- Increase of 77% or \$18,480.00	Increase in electric rate of 77%
4319 Other Highways & Streets	\$5,800.00- No change	No Change
4324 Solid Waste Disposal	\$262,423.00- Increase of 11% or \$26,570.00	Increase from \$74.70 to \$85.00 per ton for tipping fees

4325 Solid Waste Cleanup	\$17,000.00- Decrease	Decrease in Landfill Maintenance for the
•	of 26% or \$6,000.00	construction and demo landfill.
4329 Other Sanitation	\$90,420.00- Increase	Increased per Underwood Engineers sewer rate
	of 61% or \$34,420.00	study and Select Board vote.
4410 Health Department	\$20,127.00- Increase	Staff Merit & labor distribution changes, health
	of 124% or \$11,147.00	remediation added for corrective action by Board of
		Health for obligations to remedy public health issues
4441 Human Services	\$74,824.00- Increase	The General Assistance line was increased in order
Administration	of 33% or \$18,448.00	to build back up the budget line that was decreased
		last year. The budget line was decreased in 2022 as
		it was funded by ARPA money. 2023 will reflect an
		increase to begin to bring the account back up to
		\$45,000 over the next two years.
4520 Parks & Recreation	\$34,581.00- Increase	COLA increases. KO removed stipend and added
	of 24% or \$6,581.00	10% of salary in the budget. 2023 Rates will remain
		\$150 per child and \$300 per family prior to May
		15th annually. After May 15th Annually the rates
		will be \$ 200.00 per child and \$400.00 per family.
		There will be a \$ 5.00 T-Shirt Fee per camper.
4550 Public Library	\$107,856.00- Increase	Budget adjusted to show decrease in materials, dues,
	of 1% or \$\$1,253.00	technology, and salaries. Increase due to estimated
		utility increase.
4583831 Old Home Day	\$7,000.00- Increase of	Based on request made by the OHD committee.
	40% or \$2,000.00	
4583803 Town	\$500.00- Decrease of	Adjusted per Select Board vote.
Beautification	33% or \$250.00	
4611 Conservation	\$2,200.00- No Change	No Change
Commission	**************************************	
4651 Economic	\$2,250.00- No Change	No Change
Development		
4700 Debt Service	\$96,674.00- Decrease	Municipal Office Building bond expired in 2022.
	of 36% or \$96,674.00	Budget line includes sewer bond that expires in
		2031. Also includes a budget of \$2,000 for tax
		anticipation note interest as recommended by DRA,
		and an interest free loan for the insulation of the
		Municipal Office building for \$851.91 a month for
		36 months.

Chair Cherian asked about line 3186 under revenue – the Payment in Lieu of Taxes estimate looks low and would like to know if the Select Board was being conservative. Select Board Chair Carey said yes, they are proceeding with extreme caution. Chair Cherian asked if it was the same for licenses and registration on line 3220. Town Clerk Hoyt said yes when estimating revenues, you need to be conservative. The other permit fees are increasing each year which is a good thing. Chair Cherian asked about the estimate for the debt services. He assumed that the proposed sewer replacement bond that is going on the warrant is not added to the monthly debt service payments. The Gage Street Improvement bond expires in 2031. The Municipal Office bond expired in 2022.

He inquired if anyone knew what the new sewer bond payments would be. Town Administrator Phelps said she is not sure of the payment amounts for the proposed sewer project at this time. It would depend on any grants received. TA Phelps noted that by having Town Meeting's approval, it will put the Town in a better position for grants to help offset the project.

Chair Cherian stated that this is a big budget overall. The capital reserve contributions have doubled and he understands there are no frivolous spending with in the budget but a 15% increase within one year is a lot. Select Board Chair Carey said she does not disagree with Chair Cherian and that we are all feeling it personally when we receive our electric bills and oil bills etc. Everything has gone up more than what they could have expected. Things are supposed to flatten out so we do not go into a recession. Chair Cherian said two things that may not flatten out are the raises and those do not go down when inflation goes down which then causes increases for in pensions, he understands that the raises are justifiable. The second thing is the ARPA money that was used for hiring new employees will impact the tax payers' in full for 2023. Margaret Daneau said it is unfortunate timing as she added up her tax bill this year, which creates for difficult choices. Select Board Chair Carey said to keep in mind that the Town is in the reevaluation year which will change everyone's tax rate. Chair Cherian said he expected the numbers will go up a lot and the mill rate to go down but that does not mean anyone will pay less taxes. The mill rate will come down which will allow the assessments to look better but what people care about are the overall taxes. Selectman Burdick said he is hearing the housing market is starting to even out. Chair Cherian said but we are assessing at the height which will stick with us for the next three years. Select Board Chair Carey said it would be the next five years. Chair Cherian asked if the revaluation can be deferred. Deputy Planning and Community Development Director Kearsten O'Brien said it cannot be deferred. She stated that it is important for the tax payers to allow for the assessing company to assess the homes when they receive the letters so their homes can be assessed properly. If that happens, hopefully they won't see the large increase in assessment once the reevaluation happens. Chair Cherian stated that is a good point and he does recommend that to tax payers.

Select Board Chair Carey said the other thing people need to consider is the amount of untaxable property we have in Town and how many residents are receiving tax exemptions and credits, as well as current use or conservation parcels. We have about 79 million dollars' worth of untaxable property in Town. We need to look at creating more PILOT (Payment in Lieu of Taxes) agreements. We also need to look at commercial use for some our land and how we can increase revenue. The Town has many properties that we are maintaining and are not being used by the Town and are we doing our due diligence. Would it be better to sell those properties with covenants to someone who can maintain them better? Chair Cherian said he applauds the Select Board for looking into selling some of the unutilized properties. Ms. Daneau asked if there would be enough work for the Facilities Director if they were to sell some of these properties. Select Board Chair Carey said yes, they have kicked the can down the road so many times and the first thing that is normally cut from the budget is maintenance on the buildings. With the Facilities Director we have been able to accomplish a lot more for the buildings they just need the funds to fix the issues within the buildings. Ms. Daneau asked if the COLA amount follows the federal guidelines. Selectman Burdick said yes, they follow the federal guidelines but the Board agreed on less than what was recommended at 8.7%.

Chair Cherian asked about the telephones and why they remain high in costs. Town Administrator Phelps said the VOIP telephones costs \$7,800 which includes all phone lines throughout the Town except for Public Works and the Fire Department. Fax lines run approximately \$3,000 a year. Select Board cell phones are budgeted for \$1,260 a year not all are used but they keep it in case they get a new board member. The Town Administrator's cell phone is budgeted at \$450 a year. Chair Cherian asked about the Computers Licenses, Software and Hardware and said that also seems high. Town Administrator Phelps said that the Town is upgrading to subscription based Adobe and Microsoft Office 365. It is \$580 a month for 45 PCs. The Police Department will be paying for their own licenses. The Adobe Software is \$315 a month which includes 13 Adobe Pro licenses. The Adobe Pro software will allow for the PDF/A feature. Ms. Daneau asked if that would include software training. Town Administrator Phelps said no it does not. Chair Cherian asked why the amount for Town Counsel is higher money was not spent out of litigation. Select Board Chair Carey said there are several current lawsuits. The Select Board has not discouraged staff form asking questions from legal to avoid further lawsuits.

Ms. Daneau asked about 4140801 and 4140802 in the Town Clerk Budget and why it was \$1.00. Chair Cherian said it is to keep the line open. Mr. Randall asked why there are overtime lines if the employees are salaried. Finance Director Merrill said not all employees are salaried. Ms. Daneau asked if there were nonexempt workers. Finance Director Merrill said yes. Chair Cherian asked about the longevity fixes and what that was about. Select Board Chair Carey said there were employees who were supposed to receive longevity in the past that didn't in error and now the Select Board has decided to fix the errors to make the employees whole with their longevity. Mr. Tillman asked what stopped them from receiving their longevity in the first place. Select Board Chair Carey said it was oversight. Mr. Tillman asked why there is a large increase in miscellaneous in the personnel budget. Finance Director Merrill said this year the Select Board asked her to do an employee appreciation event. For 2023 she added it to the budget in case the Select Board decided to do that event again. Chair Cherian asked about the Health Insurance line 4155121. The notes say there is an 11.7% rate increase and that the employee's percentage went form 5% covered by the employee to 10% covered by employees. Why is there an 18% increase overall? Finance Director Merrill said that there are a few factors to that. The HealthTrust rates increased 11.7%, and employee contributions doubled to help offset that. We have a new employee and had a lot of turnover. The difference accounts for someone who might have been a buyout last year, but may be a single, two person or family plan for 2023. The other factor is that there have been life changes with staff. Chair Cherian asked if there were thoughts of going higher than the 10% increase to the employee's contribution. Select Board Chair Carey said no. Chair Cherian asked what the family plan employees pay a month. Finance Director Merrill said the yearly cost to employee for a family plan is \$3,322.99. Select Board Chair Carey said the effect of doubling the employees' health insurance contribution decreased the employees' salaries. The Select Board struggled with that because part of the retention at the Town of Boscawen is due to how competitive the salaries and benefits are. It does not put the Town of Boscawen's retention in a great position when other communities have the better health insurance with higher salaries. Select Board Chair Carey stated that they were hoping that by adding the dental insurance it would help offset the loss of income and help stay within a competitive insurance stand point. Selectman Burdick said that is where they based the 6% COLA on too, knowing that the increase of insurance would be 5% leaving that 1% to help with the dental expense. Ms. Daneau asked as far as the dental insurance, there was no dental insurance previously and now there is? Finance Director Merrill said correct. Chair Cherian

asked how often the Select Board looked at the plan. Select Board Chair Carey said they looked at the plan this year. The Select Board looked at different providers and they had a presentation of what the current provider offers which was above and beyond what other providers offer. The provider is the best provider for municipal government. Finance Director Merrill said that there was a \$33,919.86 health surplus return in 2022 and we did not receive that this year so that will automatically contribute to the increase. Ms. Daneau asked if the surplus was added to the 2022 health insurance. Finance Director Merrill said yes. Mr. Tillman asked if this cost was passed on to retirees. Finance Director Merrill said that retirees are covered 100% by the Town. Finance Director Merrill said that anyone hired after 2019 will not receive this benefit in the future. The employees hired before 2019 that qualify must stay a certain number of years and be a certain age in order to qualify.

Mr. Tillman asked why there was a large decrease in tax deeded properties in the Town Building Budget. Finance Director Merrill said the note says the reduction was due to actuals in 2022 and year to year it's hard to estimate what the Town will incur for tax deeded properties. Chair Cherian asked what the \$25,000 was for Contracts and Service Agreement. Finance Director Merrill said it is things like the dumpsters and shoveling. It includes any reoccurring maintenance agreements. Ms. Daneau asked if the Custodian position reduced hours. Finance Director Merrill said there was a change in personnel and the previous custodian had been with the Town for a while so there was a reduction in salary when the new one started. Chair Cherian asked why the estimates were so high for energy costs because they are not buying supply from Unitil so the rates are much lower. Facilities Director and other departments with energy costs in their budgets will go back and recalculate costs. Ms. Daneau asked if the Town Hall issues were remediated. Select Board Chair Carey said no, last year at Town Meeting the warrant article to do the engineering study was voted down, which then put the Select Board in a situation where they could not fix the issues within the Town Hall.

Mr. Tillman asked about the Building Inspector income. Planning and Community Development Director Easler recommended paying for part of one of her staff positions from that account. Mr. Randall asked if this was revenue that already existed and it was just moved around. Finance Director Merrill said that \$7,900 of that income from the Building Inspector account will be moved to the general fund to reimburse the salary line. Select Board Chair Carey said the Building Inspector account is special because it is not a tax funded account. It is funded by the individual requesting the permit. Mr. Tillman asked why there was a large increase in applicant recording fees. PCD Director Easler said it is an estimate because they cannot predict how many applications they may receive in a year.

Ms. Daneau had a question regarding the Police Department body cameras and if the annual fee for them included storage. Police Chief Kevin Wyman said yes. Mr. Tillman asked how long the storage is good for. Chief Wyman said it is good for 30 days unless marked for longer. Mr. Randall asked about line 4210331 - \$11,000 was budgeted but \$21,600 was spent. Police Chief said they paid for 2023 because they had enough in the budget so it should even out. Mr. Randall asked what income line 3410.1 was for. Chief Wyman said that would be for VIN Verifications, Pistol Permits and anything that is small. Mr. Randall was curious where the income from tickets may be. Chief Wyman said the money from tickets all goes to the State. Chair Cherian asked about the ARPA funded Police Officer that is now going to be fully funded by the tax payers, what was the need

for another officer. Chief Wyman said the number of calls and the growth they are seeing in Town. With the Exit 17 Development it has created high traffic issues and there was turnover last year. The Police Department is not always able to be fully staffed, therefore having the extra Officer helps with covering shifts and answering more calls. Chair Cherian asked if our Police Department has been the first to respond to Exit 17 calls. Chief Wyman said they have been helping a lot with those calls. The City of Concord is down officers as well as the State Troopers and they are trying to help anyway they can.

Chair Cherian asked if the Town received a report with the number of calls from Penacook Rescue. Fire Chief Tim Kenney said yes and he will forward it on to the budget committee. Mr. Tillman asked why the computer software budget went down in the Fire Department Budget when other budgets have increased. Chief Kenney said this budget reflects what the Fire Department was able to do with the ARPA money. He did not hire anyone with it but was able to purchase new portable radios to replace the old ones and bought 40 lengths of new hose. The Fire Department budget was able to absorb the costs that would have been added to the budget.

There were no questions regarding Emergency Management Budget. Chair Cherian asked about Road Resurfacing within the Public Works Department Budget. Public Works Director Hollins said they have encumbered money for resurfacing and received an extra payment from the State of NH Highway Block Grant. Chair Cherian asked about the tipping fees and the increase. PW Director Hollins said that the fees are increasing this year to \$85.00 per ton with a \$5.00 increase for the years to come. Being part of the Co-op saves money. Chair Cherian asked what the basis was for the \$5.00 increase. PW Director Hollins said it is based on what they figure it costs to run and what they would like for profit. Chair Cherian asked if they make money off power. PW Director Hollins said that is correct. Ms. Daneau asked about the Sewer Agreement contribution being in the budget. PW Director Hollins said that the sewer goes to the City of Concord and they tell the Town what they are going to have to contribute to the City of Concord. Currently, the Town is behind on having money for sewer upgrades and repairs. The Town has gone with the bare minimum and the contribution of \$48,000 has remained unchanged for years. This year, Underwood Engineers did a sewer rate study and the Select Board proceeded with their recommendation for increases. A large issue is that there is a significant amount of storm water infiltrating the sewer system due to old infrastructure and we pay by the meter. Mr. Randall asked what the number would if the issue was fixed. Select Board Chair asked Town Administrator Phelps to send the Underwood Engineers presentation and report out to the Budget Committee members.

Mr. Tillman asked about the income for Parks and Recreation and if we were trying to stay conservative. Parks and Recreation Coordinator, Kearsten O'Brien, said yes and part of the income was from donations raised by the program last year. Mr. Tillman asked if the Public Library was under the same energy agreement as the Town. Library Director Bonny John said yes. Ms. Daneau asked why the Library COLAs are less. Public Library Director John said that the library employees are not employees of the Town. No questions regarding Old Home Day.

Ms. Daneau asked why there were no funds budgeted for the Back Pack Program. Community Services Director Gerlack said they are continuing to use ARPA funds for the program as well as donations. Chair Cherian asked if there are a lot of resources being used to help homelessness. CS

Director Gerlack that she has had help from Community Action Program (CAP) which has a program called ERAP (Emergency Rental Assistance Program). This program will be ending in March for singles and in June for families. That is where the Town will see the biggest hit because they are currently assisting with the homelessness. CS Director Gerlack said that she is predicting that she is going to have to help fund some of the rental assistance when the program is completed.

Chair Cherian said the Capital Reserve contributions have doubled from last year and looks like new reserves will be on the warrant to establish. Ms. Daneau asked about the Fire Station Capital Reserve Fund. Fire Chief Kenney said one of the warrant articles this year is to repurpose the Fire Station Capital Reserve Fund so it would cover more than just the engineering costs. Then there will be the warrant article that is to allocate money to go in to keep up with the different needs for the department. Chair Cherian asked about the additional \$30,000 for Municipal IT. Town Administrator Phelps has created an IT CIP for replacement of servers, desktops, laptops, and multi-function printers. It assumes replacement based on a 5 year schedule. There are two servers, a plotter printer, multiple multi-function printers, desktop computers and laptops. This contribution creates a reserve for those anticipated replacements. Chair Cherian asked why the Municipal Buildings went up by \$50,000. Finance Director Merrill said it was due to multiple things - the boiler at the Municipal Office needs to be replaced, multiple parking lots need seal coating, the Police Department sally port needs reconstruction, the back entry way stairs for the Police Station need to be replaced, and the Fire Department has a chronic rain and snow problem that needs resolution. Chair Cherian asked if the Facilities Director wanted to do that all next year. Finance Director Merrill said she believes he is putting that amount in to be able to maintain a balance after projects are completed.

Chair Cherian asked why the Town would be putting money away for the King Street Project. PCD Director Easler said Central NH Regional Planning Commission spoke about putting money away because once the State of New Hampshire comes in to do the project there will be funds to complete items such as landscaping, sidewalks, benches, lighting etc. Chair Cherian believes that it might be worded too narrowly to road work. Town Administrator Phelps said that they can look at the wording again. Chair Cherian asked if a repair to the Dorval House would rise to the level of a contribution to the Capital Reserve Fund. Parks and Recreation Coordinator O'Brien said it would not be a repair to Dorval House. There was a previous Capital Reserve Fund for parks and recreation and money had stopped being allocated for it. Money would be for an addition off of Dorval House. This would hopefully make for a good recreation facility to host more Town events along with more senior programs. Mr. Tillman asked if article 20 passes with regards to Town Hall would article 18 go way for the assessment of the Town Hall. Town Administrator Phelps said, in her opinion, yes. Mr. Tillman asked if there were any grants that would hold up selling the Torrent Station. Select Board Chair Carey said no. Chair Cherian asked if there was any thought of deeding or selling the Torrent Station to Penacook Rescue. Fire Chief Kenney said no they do not want it and it does not increase space for them. Chair Cherian asked if there would be a covenant stating that who ever buys it will have a tenant. Fire Chief Kenney said that speaking with Penacook Rescue Chief Brechtel is that they have an agreement with the Town about staying there. CS Director Gerlack said that she was not ready to have the conversation yet but she is working on the possibility of Torrent Station becoming a warming shelter for next year and that she has spoken with Town Administrator Phelps and Chief Kenney about the idea.

Next Meeting

• Next Meeting: Budget Hearing 2/2/23 at 6pm at the Municipal Complex.

A motion to adjourn at 8:39 pm was made by Mr. Tillman, seconded by Mr. Randall, and passed by a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted by Kearsten O'Brien