

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
BUDGET MEETING  
March 4, 2020  
Meeting Room A**

<b><u>Present:</u></b>	Norman Needleman	Audience Members
	Stacia Libby	Kelly Sterner
	Bruce Glowac	James Francis
		Maria Lucarelli

Norman Needleman called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm

**Public Comment:** None

**BUDGET REVIEWS:**

**Major Budget Drivers:**

First Selectman Norman Needleman and Finance Director Kelly Sterner reported that the Major Budget Drivers for fiscal year 2020 – 2021 are salaries, fringe benefits, health care costs, pension, outside service contracts, debt service, support to outside organizations, and the capital and sinking funds.

The original budget requests were at an increase of \$314,536 over the current fiscal year.

The Board of Selectmen met on February 19<sup>th</sup> and decreased the original budget requests by \$114,814 over the current fiscal year for a total Selectmen budget of an increase of \$199,722. The budget adjustments were reductions in fringe benefits which now reflect the figures of the State plan rather than the R4 plan, savings in General Insurance, reduction in the Board of Finance Audit fee, reduction in Social Services, Visiting Nurses, Water Pollution Control Authority, and reduction in capital and sinking funds.

The Board of Selectmen met again on March 4<sup>th</sup> and added \$354 back into the budget for Emergency 9-1-1 Dispatch due to new information that was received by Valley Shore for a total increase of \$200,076 over the current fiscal year.

**Budget Meeting 2020 - 2021**

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to approve and recommend to the Board of Finance a Board of Selectmen's Budget for Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021 in the amount of \$8,596,711 which represents an increase of 2.38% over the current fiscal year. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Motion** was made by Norman Needleman to cancel the March 18, 2020 Board of Selectmen Budget #3 Meeting. Bruce Glowac seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. All in favor.

**Upcoming Dates:**

- March 18, 2020 Board of Selectmen Budget Meeting has been cancelled
- March 19, 2020 @ 7 pm Board of Finance Budget Meeting #1 – Presentation of the Board of Selectmen Budget
- March 24, 2020 @ 7 pm Board of Finance Budget Meeting #2 – Presentation of Essex Board of Education Budget
- April 16, 2020 @ 7:30 pm Budget Public Hearing and Board of Finance Budget Meeting
- May 5, 2020 from 12 pm to 8 pm Regional School District Budget Referendum
- May 11, 2020 @ 7:30 pm Annual Budget Town Meeting

**ADJOURNMENT at 6:15 pm**

Respectfully submitted, Maria Lucarelli