

Selectboard Meeting

March 17, 2026 . 6:24 PM . ID: 233643381

Transcript

00:01 - 00:04

[speaker unknown]

This conference will now be recorded.

00:09 - 00:11

Town Hall

So, Linda, what do you think?

00:11 - 00:13

Town Hall

Should we wait for your part some more time?

00:13 - 00:15

Town Hall

Or did you text him?

00:15 - 00:16

Town Hall

He hasn't answered.

00:16 - 00:17

Town Hall

Should I call him?

00:17 - 00:18

Town Hall

Do you want to call him?

00:19 - 00:19

Town Hall

I'll call him.

00:26 - 00:29

Town Hall

It's not like he has a family or something.

00:30 - 00:31

Town Hall

Yeah.

00:31 - 00:32

Town Hall

Two kids.

00:32 - 00:33

Town Hall

They're probably running all over the house.

00:33 - 00:34

Town Hall

Yeah.

00:34 - 00:36

Town Hall

It's not he's running a business either.

01:12 - 01:13

Town Hall

Minutes away.

01:13 - 01:15

Town Hall

All right, let's give me two minutes.

01:15 - 01:16

Town Hall

I'm in a warning.

01:16 - 01:18

Town Hall

You can have this right.

01:30 - 01:32

Town Hall

We can crank that up.

01:33 - 01:34

Town Hall

Yeah, why don't we do that?

01:34 - 01:49

Town Hall

So we'll go ahead and start with some Uh, it's just you, I guess.

01:50 - 01:54

Town Hall

It says select board and select board, but however you want to do it.

01:54 - 01:57

Town Hall

Yeah, you can, it probably will pass down the line.

01:57 - 01:58

Town Hall

It makes it more attractive.

02:04 - 02:06

Town Hall

It looks like we all agree.

02:06 - 02:14

Town Hall

Oh, I don't know, I never got help with other properties, but this is the one that was

on.

02:22 - 02:22

Town Hall

Yeah.

02:27 - 02:48

Town Hall

It's a letter of commitment for the MDT grant that's being submitted for covert along the Westdale River watershed area, and that's going to be like with 14 different communities and UMAP, PDTC.

02:48 - 02:49

Town Hall

There's a whole lot to see.

02:49 - 03:07

Town Hall

And the other one is for the Buckinghamdale Road culvert replacement and the assessment of the two other culverts, one on Harvey Road and one on That's in case you were all dying to hear what those were about.

03:08 - 03:08

Town Hall

Thank you.

03:10 - 03:12

Town Hall

So this is not on the agenda.

03:12 - 03:13

Town Hall

No, it's not.

03:13 - 03:22

Town Hall

But I still need for you guys to sign those because those really should have been back

to the ABC still in January.

03:23 - 03:25

Town Hall

And I just found it in the folder today.

03:26 - 03:27

Town Hall

Thank you ever so much.

03:27 - 03:29

Town Hall

And all of you sign those too.

03:29 - 03:29

Town Hall

Bart.

03:30 - 03:31

Town Hall

All right, good.

03:31 - 03:32

Town Hall

So we're all here.

03:42 - 03:45

Town Hall

Let's try to remember next year at Marianne suggestion.

03:45 - 03:48

Town Hall

Maybe we ought to wait till after town meeting to sign the contract.

04:06 - 04:11

Town Hall

So it's just us and Blandford, and Blandford hasn't sent a rep in over a year or so.

04:12 - 04:13

Town Hall

That signed our contracts early.

04:16 - 04:28

Town Hall

And they're looking desperately for a rep in Blandford, and we're trying to convince Meadowfield that they really need to join, and we're going to start charging them, so anybody knows anybody in Middelfield.

04:29 - 04:31

Town Hall

Just a new moderator.

04:33 - 04:34

Town Hall

So, I'm going to email the address.

04:34 - 04:35

Town Hall

Okay.

04:35 - 04:36

Town Hall

Let's get moderate signal.

04:36 - 04:48

Town Hall

Oh, for the for some reason, Middelfield Fire Chief has a relationship with the Hensdale Fire Department and that's who they use for ambulance service but it's volunteer and it's dispatched out of Berkshire County.

04:48 - 04:53

Town Hall

So, there's a bunch of people in Middelfield that really don't want to go to Berkshire

Hospital or deal with them.

04:53 - 05:00

Town Hall

So, they call Hilltown Ambulance to come together, but they're not in the network.

05:00 - 05:03

Town Hall

They don't, you know, the middle field doesn't contribute like everybody else.

05:03 - 05:04

Town Hall

Remember her?

05:04 - 05:06

Town Hall

Our old recording secretary, Suzanne?

05:07 - 05:08

Town Hall

She lives in the middle field.

05:08 - 05:08

Town Hall

Right.

05:08 - 05:09

Town Hall

And so does Kirsten.

05:09 - 05:10

Town Hall

And so does Kirsten.

05:10 - 05:13

Town Hall

I've talked to Kirsten, but if anybody knows anybody in the middle field.

05:14 - 05:15

Town Hall

She would.

05:17 - 05:22

Town Hall

Okay, so we can get started on budget now.

05:22 - 05:23

Town Hall

Everybody's here.

05:26 - 05:30

Town Hall

So shall we just go through this various.

05:33 - 05:35

Town Hall

Time budgets here in the first two are the big ones.

05:39 - 05:45

Town Hall

So we'll start with the select board.

05:45 - 05:47

Town Hall

You didn't lay them, of course.

05:49 - 05:50

Town Hall

This is select board one, I think.

05:50 - 05:51

Town Hall

Yeah, it is.

05:51 - 05:55

Town Hall

There's a little number down at the right-hand corner too, but I have them in order.

05:56 - 05:56

Town Hall

Okay.

05:56 - 05:57

Town Hall

Yeah, but I don't know...

05:57 - 06:00

Town Hall

But it also has the sheet number in the upper right-hand corner.

06:00 - 06:01

Town Hall

It definitely ran into...

06:01 - 06:03

Town Hall

Well, it's in the bottom, I have it.

06:03 - 06:03

Town Hall

It's in the bottom.

06:04 - 06:04

Town Hall

All right.

06:04 - 06:06

Town Hall

So salaries, expenses.

06:07 - 06:12

Town Hall

So there's no real significant changes here.

06:13 - 06:16

Town Hall

We budgeted for new tables last year, and that's not here.

06:16 - 06:18

Town Hall

We're not doing that again, obviously.

06:18 - 06:25

Town Hall

And everything else is pretty flat with the exception of, you know, people's salaries and pay.

06:27 - 06:31

Town Hall

Anybody want to discuss their, or ask a question?

06:33 - 06:34

Town Hall

I don't have any questions.

06:35 - 06:37

Town Hall

Yes, Joe, go ahead, sorry.

06:38 - 06:41

JOE BOUDREAU

I know the answer, but I'm still going to ask the.

06:41 - 06:42

JOE BOUDREAU

Question.

06:42 - 07:11

JOE BOUDREAU

The budget that was submitted for the assistant town office salary at \$10 ,507, however, Conlon I was told that was 10 ,00998 and I was told that was a great change.

07:12 - 07:14

JOE BOUDREAU

Hey, were you not aware of.

07:14 - 07:15

JOE BOUDREAU

That?

07:15 - 07:16

JOE BOUDREAU

You.

07:16 - 07:44

Town Hall

Know, I wasn't I wasn't I had and last year she got a grade a as did Michelle but then I found the minutes I found the minutes from the meeting with in 2023 where the select board voted to put the give them in addition to a cola a step and they assigned grades and both of them were grade B.

07:45 - 07:57

Town Hall

So what I did is I took the amount they were getting paid and found the closest grade B, which was B one, instead of the A seven, I think they were at.

07:58 - 08:02

Town Hall

And it actually, it does in fact give them a little bit more than a full step.

08:05 - 08:07

Town Hall

That's the additional dollars.

08:08 - 08:18

Town Hall

But otherwise I would have had to do some, it would have been a little less I think it would have been like a B minus, you know, I would have to do a minus one step or something.

08:18 - 08:20

Town Hall

I'd come up with a step before B1.

08:22 - 08:27

JOE BOUDREAU

So is this going to continue to happen every year or now are we at the level.

08:29 - 08:30

Town Hall

That...

08:30 - 08:31

Town Hall

So now they're corrected.

08:31 - 08:32

Town Hall

So they're both B1s.

08:32 - 08:34

Town Hall

Next year, they'll be B2s.

08:35 - 08:39

Town Hall

And they'll just get the normal step in COLA next year.

08:39 - 08:41

JOE BOUDREAU

So there are grade...

08:41 - 08:41

JOE BOUDREAU

Grade.

08:43 - 08:45

JOE BOUDREAU

Now, what are they?

08:45 - 08:45

JOE BOUDREAU

Grade B.

08:45 - 08:47

Town Hall

They're grade B, step one.

08:48 - 08:50

JOE BOUDREAU

So, next year, there still will be a grade B.

08:50 - 08:52

JOE BOUDREAU

They're not going to go to another.

08:52 - 08:53

Town Hall

Grade.

08:53 - 08:55

Town Hall

It all depends on how I'm feeling, Joe.

08:56 - 08:57

Town Hall

Yes, that's that's correct.

08:57 - 09:03

Town Hall

They will stay at grade B and they should have been there last year because we voted on it in twenty-three.

09:03 - 09:06

Town Hall

Right, but we couldn't remember Clearly.

09:14 - 09:17

Town Hall

Okay, okay Okay, we went on to.

09:21 - 09:22

Town Hall

So.

09:28 - 09:31

Town Hall

Slide increase what it's something you want to say?

09:31 - 09:39

Town Hall

Yeah, because you'll notice that I put in red the law account and the town buildings heat expense account.

09:40 - 09:59

Town Hall

So we are currently paid through, I paid as much as I could of a February invoice but we still have \$6 ,000 outstanding from our law bill so we're negative six, six and a half And we still have March April May June so.

10:01 - 10:24

Town Hall

I Thought maybe I don't even know \$20 ,000 is enough, but so I'm leaving it I'm that's my thing it was 15 last year were behind But again, we have the solar stuff

happening, and it's going to be happening for a while So I think that that's the main the main thing that's driving Well, we've had a little more litigation with mr. Brooks than yep.

10:24 - 10:26

Town Hall

Right in the previous year and.

10:29 - 10:45

Town Hall

Trying to think there was something else we've been well we we had to work with them on the winter road closings Which is and actually for different people leading and coming and going.

10:48 - 11:11

Town Hall

It's any reason to think they're gonna go down no at the At the Mass Municipal Association with the Legislative Breakfast in Lenox, we were discussing litigation with different towns, and I think it was Middlefield said that every open meeting law complaint that they get costs \$4 ,000 in legal expenses.

11:11 - 11:15

Town Hall

You know, and we've had probably two in the last year from Mr. Brooks.

11:16 - 11:21

Town Hall

So that could be, I don't know if it's, I mean, it's all the same law firm, but it's about the same amount.

11:21 - 11:24

Town Hall

So, it could have been \$8 ,000 right there and those two.

11:26 - 11:26

Town Hall

So, you know.

11:28 - 11:28

Town Hall

So.

11:30 - 11:34

JOE BOUDREAU

The answer to that is that you guys don't violate the open meeting law.

11:35 - 11:36

Town Hall

I know.

11:37 - 11:38

Town Hall

Why don't we think of that?

11:39 - 11:39

Town Hall

Well, yep.

11:40 - 11:45

Town Hall

I mean, one of the complaints was against me and it was found that I did not violate the open law.

11:45 - 11:45

Town Hall

Yeah, right.

11:45 - 11:46

Town Hall

We won.

11:46 - 11:46

Town Hall

Right.

11:46 - 12:00

Town Hall

But he's still, nonetheless, he's suing the attorney general, He's suing Andrea Campbell, he's suing KP Law, our lawyer, and he's suing the office that does the open meeting law.

12:00 - 12:02

Town Hall

And all of this leftward leverage.

12:02 - 12:03

Town Hall

Oh, and all of this leftward leverage.

12:03 - 12:04

Town Hall

Well, in that one, I'm not sure if it's right.

12:04 - 12:06

Town Hall

No, he just tried to add us.

12:06 - 12:07

Town Hall

He tried to add us onto something.

12:07 - 12:08

Town Hall

And without notifying us.

12:09 - 12:11

Town Hall

That's where our lawyer is trying to get that thrown out.

12:11 - 12:11

Town Hall

Right.

12:11 - 12:13

Town Hall

But I mean, you know, it's.

12:13 - 12:15

JOE BOUDREAU

Like...

12:44 - 12:47

[speaker unknown]

Why don't we create a separate Suggestions?

12:47 - 12:55

Town Hall

Can you not ever ask to, if you're found innocent, especially, can you not ever ask to get your damages for legal expenses paid?

12:56 - 12:58

Town Hall

Not against the open meeting law complaint.

12:58 - 13:01

Town Hall

But they're starting to throw stuff out against him.

13:02 - 13:06

Town Hall

Well, for that's the losses, but an open meeting law complaint, I don't think so.

13:06 - 13:11

Town Hall

The reason he's suing the Attorney General is because he appealed his loss, and they said there's no appeal.

13:11 - 13:23

Town Hall

You know it's not a legal verdict it's you know the it's not a law suit so is there any kind of contingency plan for when this happens because you can't.

13:25 - 13:39

Town Hall

Really plan for no when somebody's gonna sue the town yeah it depends what the is.

13:39 - 13:41

Town Hall

For some things we have insurance.

13:41 - 13:42

Town Hall

Yes.

13:42 - 13:42

Town Hall

Right.

13:43 - 13:44

Town Hall

Depends what they're saying.

13:44 - 13:47

Town Hall

If they're saying it's for some sort of damages, some of it gets hurt.

13:48 - 13:52

Town Hall

But if it's not budgeted, you still got to pay it.

13:52 - 13:52

Town Hall

Right.

13:53 - 13:54

Town Hall

So what's the plan B?

13:54 - 13:59

Town Hall

Well, we estimate what we can do, and if we don't have enough, then we have to ask for an additional appropriation.

14:00 - 14:06

JOE BOUDREAU

That's what, you know, keep the 20 and we'll backfill it later on when we run short.

14:07 - 14:09

JOE BOUDREAU

Let's not I assume the worst.

14:09 - 14:10

JOE BOUDREAU

Upfront.

14:10 - 14:12

Town Hall

I think, but I think it is legitimate Bart.

14:12 - 14:18

Town Hall

I mean, do you have anticipate between the current project and the old post project what those are gonna?

14:20 - 14:25

Town Hall

I hope that it's less, you know, round two is less than round one because we'll learn stuff.

14:25 - 14:26

Town Hall

We'll need to.

14:27 - 14:29

Town Hall

You've used the same people already, still have to consult with them.

14:30 - 14:31

Town Hall

We haven't done it.

14:31 - 14:33

Town Hall

We don't even have an application, so who knows, but.

14:34 - 14:35

Town Hall

You don't have the application?

14:39 - 14:42

Town Hall

But hopefully there won't be as much need for legal counsel.

14:43 - 14:46

Town Hall

Weren't they trying to get it in before the vote?

14:47 - 14:48

Town Hall

They got the preliminary plan or something.

14:48 - 14:50

Town Hall

Oh, they did the subdivision.

14:52 - 14:52

Town Hall

Okay.

14:52 - 14:53

Town Hall

All right.

14:54 - 14:56

Town Hall

So we'll keep it the way it is for now?

14:57 - 14:58

Town Hall

Yeah.

14:59 - 15:01

Town Hall

It's still five grand more than last year.

15:03 - 15:15

Town Hall

Okay So go back up to the top accountants to service late increase Just normal yeah, they used to go up six hundred dollars software's big increase.

15:18 - 15:38

Town Hall

Yeah, that's Yes, and that's the software that that they share So they each have there's trick you'll see there's well the Treasury might not be on this one This is the accountants and then the Treasury also has one is not not its expenses Same software though, but this is spring spring brook.

15:38 - 15:40

Town Hall

And we've had them for years.

15:40 - 15:46

Town Hall

They do soft, right and They're the ones that didn't give us the proper amount of money.

15:46 - 15:55

Town Hall

Okay, so is this So it's 49 22 is what we appropriated so what do we actually end up spending because you had to.

15:59 - 16:20

Town Hall

I Only had to pay five hundred and something more dollars, okay But this is the but this was just one so like all together there there their bill was like seven grand last year between the two accounts But Treasury is on cursing So they only so if it's five hundred dollars over this that brings it up.

16:20 - 16:43

Town Hall

You know a little less than 55 So why is it 63 on I'm not really sure that's what they gave me So that's the price they gave you You can't argue without and maintenance you're adding to 50 Yeah, I think a lot of it is because I pay the electric Well.

16:43 - 16:47

Town Hall

This is and supplies, but I so that's not the one that I do that's just everything.

16:50 - 16:53

Town Hall

But it's not much of a chunk.

17:03 - 17:09

Town Hall

I think a lot of that was we weren't paying for the for the lights around the round the rotary.

17:10 - 17:11

Town Hall

Yeah.

17:12 - 17:14

Town Hall

So we had what is it three or four lights we weren't paying for?

17:15 - 17:16

Town Hall

And they didn't charge us.

17:17 - 17:18

Town Hall

They didn't backcharge us.

17:19 - 17:19

Town Hall

We shouldn't complain.

17:20 - 17:22

Town Hall

Vogue ad is still a guess, right?

17:22 - 17:22

Town Hall

Yes.

17:23 - 17:23

Town Hall

Okay.

17:25 - 17:27

Town Hall

But not too scary, really.

17:28 - 17:29

Town Hall

We'll see.

17:30 - 17:30

Town Hall

Okay.

17:30 - 17:33

Town Hall

Hilltown Ambulance is the usual, you know, is the rate increase.

17:35 - 17:37

Town Hall

I forget what the percentage was.

17:40 - 17:41

Town Hall

Audit expense?

17:42 - 17:43

Town Hall

He went up \$200.

17:44 - 17:45

Town Hall

\$2,000.

17:45 - 17:46

Town Hall

\$2,000, yeah.

17:46 - 17:51

Town Hall

So this is only the second time in the 15 years that I've been here that he's gone up in price.

17:54 - 17:54

Town Hall

In case anybody's wondering.

17:55 - 17:55

Town Hall

Okay.

17:56 - 17:57

Town Hall

Assurance, modest increase.

17:57 - 17:59

Town Hall

Because that's because they kept more than \$15 ,000.

18:03 - 18:04

Town Hall

Worker's comp gets added in there too.

18:05 - 18:05

Town Hall

That's there.

18:05 - 18:11

Town Hall

But yeah, they have the separate Can I wanted to ask you Founders say.

18:25 - 18:32

Town Hall

Okay, so Building heating expense red is that oh I missed out.

18:32 - 18:33

Town Hall

Yes.

18:35 - 18:45

Town Hall

It's obvious we have so I paid through February, and we have \$4 ,000 left.

18:47 - 18:49

Town Hall

So I'm wondering if it'll make it.

18:50 - 18:52

Town Hall

So that was why.

18:52 - 18:53

Town Hall

I just do this.

18:53 - 18:55

Town Hall

It's always a guess for me.

18:56 - 18:58

Town Hall

I do it pretty well, usually.

18:59 - 19:01

Town Hall

Well, trying to predict the oil futures.

19:01 - 19:01

Town Hall

I know.

19:02 - 19:03

Town Hall

It's not going to get any use.

19:03 - 19:05

Town Hall

Look at what our things were.

19:05 - 19:11

Town Hall

So, if we get the grand, will the pellets be cheaper than oil?

19:11 - 19:13

Town Hall

Yeah, they are cheaper.

19:13 - 19:17

Town Hall

Not all that much cheaper, but they're cheaper and they're renewable energy.

19:18 - 19:22

Town Hall

So, we're looking at a pellet system for the front of the building.

19:24 - 19:25

Town Hall

Just like we put in the fire department.

19:27 - 19:29

Town Hall

Adding radiators to the front, too.

19:30 - 19:31

Town Hall

We did that yesterday.

19:31 - 19:33

Town Hall

My good friend Jonathan here.

19:33 - 19:36

Town Hall

Would that actually be installed for next winter?

19:36 - 19:37

Town Hall

Yeah, yeah potential.

19:37 - 19:38

Town Hall

Yes.

19:38 - 19:43

Town Hall

Yeah, I Contracts and then start date for September the last year.

19:46 - 19:56

Town Hall

But it means changing from a hot air system to a boiler so it's a pretty big change And again reading you're seeing the big move.

19:56 - 20:03

Town Hall

Yeah Okay, anybody have anything else on this All right.

20:05 - 20:05

Town Hall

Okay.

20:07 - 20:07

Town Hall

Veterans.

20:08 - 20:09

Town Hall

Sorry, go ahead, Joe.

20:09 - 20:12

JOE BOUDREAU

Are you leaving this this page?

20:12 - 20:13

JOE BOUDREAU

I have a question.

20:13 - 20:14

JOE BOUDREAU

Then.

20:15 - 20:15

JOE BOUDREAU

Yes.

20:17 - 20:19

JOE BOUDREAU

Reverse 9-1-1.

20:19 - 20:20

JOE BOUDREAU

There's zero.

20:21 - 20:26

Town Hall

It's because we paid for two years.

20:26 - 20:27

Town Hall

Three years.

20:27 - 20:28

Town Hall

Three years.

20:28 - 20:29

Town Hall

So there's.

20:29 - 20:29

JOE BOUDREAU

No payment.

20:29 - 20:32

JOE BOUDREAU

There's no there's no cost for next year.

20:32 - 20:34

Town Hall

I know for the next two years, right?

20:35 - 20:37

Town Hall

Okay, being clear.

20:40 - 20:42

Town Hall

Eventually, we'll get there.

20:42 - 20:48

Town Hall

Yeah, it's not really free, but you know, this company is so much better than the old one.

20:51 - 20:52

Town Hall

All right.

20:52 - 20:58

Town Hall

So, um, veterans, uh, veteran aid big drop is just because we never spend it right.

20:59 - 21:08

Town Hall

And I do, I shouldn't say this out of the meeting, but I do so of having a little bumper of money there, but I think, yeah, it just seems like.

21:08 - 21:10

Town Hall

So how much did they spend this year?

21:10 - 21:15

Town Hall

Well, it's 5.63, 12 times, whatever that adds up to.

21:15 - 21:20

Town Hall

Oh, it's spending, so it'll be, yeah, it's probably right around what I'm asking for.

21:23 - 21:27

Town Hall

Okay, so yeah, that's six.

21:27 - 21:33

Town Hall

The only issue would be is if we had somebody else that came on, but then we have to deal with it.

21:33 - 21:42

Town Hall

So that amounts to is a single payment for a person so if another veteran moved into town Right.

21:42 - 22:01

Town Hall

There's been times, you know when they also asked for things like a new new something and Yeah, so and and we can pay that out of those benefits too We have only had done that a few times and really we've only had one person here on this for probably the last 44 or 5 years.

22:03 - 22:06

Town Hall

Again, I don't, these are our kind of unknowns, you know.

22:07 - 22:09

Town Hall

In central Hampshire, VETS is just a VETS.

22:09 - 22:10

Town Hall

And that's an assessment, yeah.

22:12 - 22:14

Town Hall

They're wonderful to work with.

22:15 - 22:16

Town Hall

Joe, anything on this one?

22:16 - 22:17

Town Hall

Nope.

22:20 - 22:22

Town Hall

All right, disposal works.

22:27 - 22:30

Town Hall

So the increase there is just general.

22:31 - 22:33

Town Hall

Yes, well, the- Inflation.

22:33 - 22:44

Town Hall

The Hilltown Resource Management is an assessment, and the other, the disposable, are these the corrected wages?

22:45 - 22:46

Town Hall

I believe so, ma 'am.

22:46 - 22:47

Town Hall

Okay.

22:47 - 23:06

Town Hall

So it's her rate of pay, and then a general schedule includes 15 extra hours, because there are times when she comes in, when the inspection's being done, getting ready to So if she rarely spends, it doesn't all get spent.

23:07 - 23:10

Town Hall

It's just to have that little experience there for when she does work extra.

23:10 - 23:14

Town Hall

So the amount we put in appropriations, let me just get that.

23:30 - 23:53

Town Hall

Joe, while I'm trying to find something here, is there a reason that the list of accounts in the appropriations tab of the budget Are in the order they're in because they're not by account number Did you group you must have grouped these and I see you know?

23:54 - 23:59

Town Hall

Salary things are grouped together to a certain degree, but it's just like stuff.

23:59 - 24:01

Town Hall

So it's really hard to find things.

24:01 - 24:02

JOE BOUDREAU

It.

24:04 - 24:09

JOE BOUDREAU

I should say it's been that way forever and.

24:09 - 24:09

Town Hall

I.

24:09 - 24:16

JOE BOUDREAU

Didn't have or the time to move them around because it goes back a number of.

24:16 - 24:16

Town Hall

Years.

24:19 - 24:24

JOE BOUDREAU

So if somebody wants to change them, go ahead, but it.

24:24 - 24:24

Town Hall

Goes back.

24:24 - 24:25

JOE BOUDREAU

Multiple years.

24:26 - 24:26

Town Hall

All right.

24:26 - 24:31

Town Hall

Well, I'm going to warn you, the next year I'm going to sort this tab by account

number.

24:32 - 24:35

Town Hall

All right, so we put in.

24:37 - 24:46

Town Hall

76 ,000, that's 14 ,525.

24:47 - 24:48

Town Hall

All right, so that's what's in there.

24:48 - 24:48

Town Hall

Okay, that's good.

24:49 - 24:58

Town Hall

Okay, and the increase there is because I just figured, you know, they go up in rates, the hauling rates, tipping rates, and...

24:58 - 25:06

Town Hall

So 14 to 10 is what she would get paid based on 13 hours a week.

25:06 - 25:07

Town Hall

And we added 15 hours to that.

25:07 - 25:09

Town Hall

And that's what gets it to 14, 25.

25:10 - 25:12

Town Hall

Why is it less than last year?

25:13 - 25:17

Town Hall

Because she just arbitrarily added more than that last year.

25:18 - 25:20

Town Hall

And we decided 15 extra hours was enough.

25:20 - 25:22

Town Hall

Yeah, I think that's right.

25:23 - 25:24

Town Hall

That's the reason.

25:24 - 25:27

Town Hall

I never know, I don't remember.

25:27 - 25:30

Town Hall

I mean, we discussed it and I asked why is her number not making sense?

25:30 - 25:33

Town Hall

Yeah, she said, wait a minute, this is the amount she makes an hour.

25:33 - 25:34

Town Hall

Why, where'd you come up with that figure?

25:35 - 25:36

Town Hall

I said, well, it's going to be inside my mouth.

25:36 - 25:38

Town Hall

So that's how we agreed on 15 hours.

25:40 - 25:41

Town Hall

Oh, look at the money you're saving.

25:41 - 25:42

Town Hall

That's why.

25:44 - 25:44

Town Hall

Okay.

25:47 - 25:51

Town Hall

And of course, disposal, hauling costs have gone up, which is the difference.

25:51 - 26:00

Town Hall

And recycling have all gone up at least 5% for most of it and then one was 6% so I gave it a 5.5% increase.

26:01 - 26:03

Town Hall

But it's not really scary because I can't...

26:03 - 26:07

Town Hall

And that comes out of Disposal Works, that's not Hilton Resource Management, that's not HRMC.

26:07 - 26:09

Town Hall

No, that has its own thing, HRMC.

26:09 - 26:11

Town Hall

So why did that number go down?

26:12 - 26:14

Town Hall

I don't know why, good question.

26:15 - 26:16

Town Hall

You're there, you go.

26:16 - 26:19

Town Hall

I know, I thought we left it flat, I just met there yesterday.

26:19 - 26:21

Town Hall

Maybe I put it in wrong.

26:22 - 26:22

Town Hall

What?

26:22 - 26:24

Town Hall

I said maybe I put it in wrong.

26:24 - 26:24

Town Hall

Check and see.

26:25 - 26:26

Town Hall

Okay, I will double check that.

26:33 - 26:34

Town Hall

You were saying something.

26:36 - 26:38

Town Hall

You remember what you were saying?

26:38 - 26:39

Town Hall

Half now.

26:40 - 26:40

Town Hall

Okay.

26:40 - 26:40

Town Hall

Sorry.

26:42 - 26:44

Town Hall

I think it was when we were talking about weights.

26:53 - 26:59

Town Hall

It says miscellaneous, because all the rest of them are just miscellaneous.

26:59 - 27:00

Town Hall

Oh, I see.

27:00 - 27:01

Town Hall

It's like I have it.

27:02 - 27:04

Town Hall

Yes, now you get it.

27:05 - 27:10

Town Hall

Yeah, you remember those three bunch of books with the little separators and such.

27:10 - 27:11

Town Hall

All right.

27:11 - 27:13

Town Hall

So Kevin's got a monster.

27:13 - 27:14

Town Hall

Monster.

27:14 - 27:14

Town Hall

Mommy's got a monster.

27:14 - 27:16

Town Hall

I'm going to call that a day.

27:16 - 27:17

Town Hall

We go out to dinner.

27:18 - 27:19

Town Hall

Far away.

27:20 - 27:21

Town Hall

Not very far.

27:22 - 27:23

Town Hall

And they don't eat much.

27:28 - 27:30

Town Hall

Konkon expenses for that.

27:30 - 27:31

Town Hall

Yep, kept at the same.

27:33 - 27:36

Town Hall

Historical Commission, they have yet to meet.

27:38 - 27:41

Town Hall

So, Probably won't be spending a lot.

27:43 - 27:47

Town Hall

Why don't you imagine, Director, that's just the polo work for a salary.

27:47 - 28:32

Town Hall

And we've cut out his expense account didn't he want to retire or he did say he's thinking of retiring but he hasn't actually okay okay yeah last time I talked to yeah yeah I've seen ACO that's just there she's on the column schedule right so she gets a step and of course so you know she did mention she this last year and she mentioned it this year that the 350 that we have for expenses is she says most of it she had does like five different towns and she's got all the stuff she needs but if

there's an emergency if she needs to do an emergency that that won't be enough.

28:33 - 28:33

Town Hall

Right.

28:33 - 28:34

Town Hall

She said 800.

28:34 - 28:35

Town Hall

She hasn't.

28:35 - 28:37

Town Hall

But we haven't had one in years.

28:37 - 28:37

Town Hall

We didn't do it last year.

28:38 - 28:39

Town Hall

We have never had one in years.

28:40 - 28:43

Town Hall

So I just want to do my due diligence to tell you all about it.

28:46 - 28:48

Town Hall

So if that happened, we just would.

28:50 - 28:51

Town Hall

Have to transfer it.

28:51 - 28:53

Town Hall

Yeah, or pay us \$40 ,000.

28:55 - 28:57

Town Hall

I like it.

28:58 - 28:59

Town Hall

Oh, did I say that out loud at the opening?

29:02 - 29:04

Town Hall

All right, animal inspector.

29:06 - 29:08

Town Hall

So that's a non-colleges.

29:08 - 29:08

Town Hall

Yeah.

29:09 - 29:14

Town Hall

Right, so there's just a little layer on the inspector.

29:14 - 29:14

Town Hall

And.

29:29 - 29:34

Town Hall

Pain to renew his license because he's retired and he wouldn't bother with it.

29:34 - 29:34

Town Hall

Otherwise.

29:37 - 29:41

Town Hall

Yeah Yes inspector Don Lotton is the nicest man to talk to.

29:41 - 29:43

Town Hall

I only talked to him once a year.

29:43 - 29:44

Town Hall

He's always happy to hear me.

29:44 - 29:46

Town Hall

He says he loves doing what he does and he doesn't.

29:47 - 29:48

Town Hall

Michael Amelia?

29:48 - 29:48

Town Hall

Yeah.

29:48 - 29:49

Town Hall

No, no.

29:49 - 29:50

Town Hall

Don Lotton.

29:50 - 29:51

Town Hall

I've never even met him in person.

29:52 - 29:53

Town Hall

Can I just ask about the wiring inspector?

29:54 - 29:55

Town Hall

Is that CSO renewal?

29:56 - 29:57

Town Hall

Is that a new account?

29:58 - 29:59

Town Hall

Is that a capital expense?

30:00 - 30:04

Town Hall

No, it adds into his regular expenses.

30:04 - 30:06

Town Hall

She just noted it that way because I had the same question.

30:06 - 30:10

Town Hall

Yeah, like I said, it should actually be 270.

30:10 - 30:11

Town Hall

Yeah, it should be, right.

30:11 - 30:11

Town Hall

Right, exactly.

30:13 - 30:13

Town Hall

Yep.

30:13 - 30:15

Town Hall

But it is a one-time.

30:16 - 30:18

Town Hall

I don't know how often you have to do that.

30:18 - 30:19

Town Hall

It's not there, but you know.

30:19 - 30:19

Town Hall

Right.

30:20 - 30:23

Town Hall

It's only every, however many years he has to make his license.

30:23 - 30:23

Town Hall

Three years, I think.

30:25 - 30:27

Town Hall

If you want him to keep...

30:28 - 30:29

Town Hall

Ryan, that was sort of the deal.

30:29 - 30:31

Town Hall

If you want me to keep doing this, you better pay for my license.

30:35 - 30:39

Town Hall

But he comes and does free stuff here in the building, so.

30:40 - 30:40

Town Hall

Yes, he does.

30:40 - 30:44

Town Hall

I think we get our money's worth here.

30:46 - 30:49

Town Hall

So don't we argue every year about the tree warden expense?

30:50 - 30:50

Town Hall

Yeah, I think you do.

30:51 - 30:52

Town Hall

I don't.

30:53 - 30:57

Town Hall

So has he been, did we actually end up appropriating the 20?

30:57 - 30:58

Town Hall

Like it says we did, so.

30:59 - 30:59

Town Hall

Yeah.

30:59 - 31:01

Town Hall

I think he wants 25.

31:02 - 31:04

Town Hall

Usually, we usually give him 20.

31:04 - 31:06

Town Hall

Yeah, that seems to be that, yeah.

31:06 - 31:07

Town Hall

Has there been a conversation?

31:07 - 31:11

Town Hall

No, this is what he sent it to me and that's what it said.

31:11 - 31:12

Town Hall

Okay.

31:12 - 31:13

Town Hall

That's just good enough.

31:16 - 31:18

Town Hall

All the ash borers, right?

31:23 - 31:30

Town Hall

So, I have not yet had a chance to look into the underground storage tank removal.

31:31 - 31:35

Town Hall

So that will be something that's going to be on, that will be an article.

31:37 - 31:38

Town Hall

I have the names.

31:38 - 31:39

Town Hall

Can you get a grant for that?

31:40 - 31:43

Town Hall

I'm not doing any more grants until I have the ones in my life out of my life.

31:44 - 31:45

Town Hall

I have six grants going out.

31:45 - 31:46

Town Hall

I have six.

31:46 - 31:48

Town Hall

You've got to, you've got to kind of, you've got to juggle all those grants.

31:48 - 31:48

Town Hall

Yeah.

31:48 - 31:50

Town Hall

Man, I'm good at juggling, man.

31:50 - 31:52

Town Hall

They're all, they're all hitting me on the head now, though.

31:54 - 31:55

Town Hall

And I'm not joking.

31:55 - 32:01

Town Hall

It's like, and it would be easy if they all had, they say they can make it central to like everybody goes to one side.

32:01 - 32:10

Town Hall

I have like four different platforms that I have to go to and and some are on the end stage, some are just starting, some are in the works.

32:10 - 32:13

Town Hall

I have to do an invitation for bids for the bridge.

32:14 - 32:22

Town Hall

So, but if you're serious, since the fire department has their own grant writers, is there a grant, are there grants for that?

32:22 - 32:27

Town Hall

I mean there always used to be, I mean I'm on the federal side and so now I assume the answer is no.

32:27 - 32:29

Town Hall

Yeah, probably not.

32:32 - 32:34

Town Hall

But I mean I don't know.

32:34 - 32:37

Town Hall

You're taking out an oil tank and putting in wood?

32:40 - 32:42

Town Hall

Don't you mean you want a coal burner?

32:48 - 32:48

Town Hall

Okay.

32:49 - 32:51

Town Hall

Is that something the CDC would be able to help?

32:51 - 32:55

Town Hall

I don't know if they get into municipal but I feel like that it was a residential.

33:24 - 33:26

Town Hall

I mean, take care of it.

33:26 - 33:29

Town Hall

I'm happy to help, but the timing is right there.

33:29 - 33:33

Town Hall

I mean, that can, it takes, I can't administer it.

33:33 - 33:34

Town Hall

There's not like a huge rush on this thing.

33:34 - 33:35

Town Hall

We just have to deal with it.

33:35 - 33:38

Town Hall

It would have to, it has to be done, yes.

33:38 - 33:40

Town Hall

Well, I'm not going to be talking into it right now, anybody, so.

33:41 - 33:43

Town Hall

I just said, put that out there, but I'll talk with Dave.

33:44 - 33:46

Town Hall

How long do we have to get rid of it?

33:46 - 33:51

Town Hall

Well, we can do it whenever we want, but it's, you know, until it starts leaking, if it isn't already.

33:51 - 33:53

Town Hall

And it's just a good thing to get out of it.

33:53 - 33:57

Town Hall

Yeah, but it's not like they got to do it.

33:57 - 33:57

Town Hall

Yeah.

33:57 - 33:59

Town Hall

Well, Deb said she can help write the grant.

34:00 - 34:00

Town Hall

Yeah.

34:15 - 34:20

Town Hall

But not So we still put the article.

34:24 - 34:27

Town Hall

So let's get the price regardless.

34:28 - 34:28

Town Hall

Yeah.

34:29 - 34:34

Town Hall

Yeah, it is a, it's kind of a daunting thing because they have to do all kinds of testing.

34:35 - 34:36

Town Hall

Oh yeah.

34:36 - 34:37

Town Hall

Dave Christopherson.

34:39 - 34:47

Town Hall

So, should we talk about the budget as a whole, or would you like to, I would like to proceed?

34:48 - 34:51

Town Hall

I don't know, it's pretty scary to look at the whole thing altogether.

34:55 - 35:19

Town Hall

The numbers looking like and you guys they're all they all balance now together with each other well that's always a good start that's the good part yes okay now it's a bad hurt it's the numbers that they agree right that there is a fairly large deficit yeah but it wouldn't that number from the school today help yeah So.

35:19 - 35:19

Town Hall

That's the picture.

35:19 - 35:20

Town Hall

Yes.

35:20 - 35:22

Town Hall

I haven't plugged that in yet.

35:22 - 35:27

Town Hall

I haven't plugged that in yet either but at least the, you know, so the, oh, go ahead.

35:30 - 35:35

JOE BOUDREAU

Before I think that we can talk about the total budget and how to balance it.

35:35 - 35:37

JOE BOUDREAU

We need to get them all in.

35:37 - 35:41

JOE BOUDREAU

So, we're still waiting on highway and I understand they're coming in next week.

35:42 - 35:43

Town Hall

Hopefully, yes.

35:43 - 35:48

Town Hall

They got overwhelmed by nut season so.

35:48 - 35:50

JOE BOUDREAU

Next week we'll know highway.

35:50 - 35:54

Town Hall

I.

35:54 - 36:14

JOE BOUDREAU

Would also like to revisit talking to the school I know what was sent over today reduce their assessment somewhat and that's a good thing it's going in the right direction but is it possible that we could talk to the school in the way next week.

36:16 - 36:18

Town Hall

I don't see why not if they're available.

36:18 - 36:26

Town Hall

So we do need to talk about meeting Wednesday instead of Tuesday because Peg and I are both out Tuesday.

36:26 - 36:28

Town Hall

I'm going to a recycling conference.

36:30 - 36:33

Town Hall

Be ready for the fun stories that are going to come back.

36:42 - 36:53

Town Hall

Does Wednesday work for everyone actually 25th yes, I already love it if we could do it on Thursday because Wednesday is gonna be very hard I don't think matters to me.

36:53 - 36:56

Town Hall

Don't we have a poll hearing on that same day on Wednesday.

36:57 - 36:58

Town Hall

Is it the 24th?

36:59 - 37:01

Town Hall

No, we're in April.

37:04 - 37:24

Town Hall

26 is the next day of the planning board hearing but it's not gonna actually it will be opened and continued there will be no testimony so other than the fact that I need to spend five minutes in that in the school opening and continuing.

37:39 - 37:47

Town Hall

So 645 645 next Thursday, so do we have to meet for a poll hearing next week or don't I don't know.

37:49 - 37:53

Town Hall

Okay, we have to come in just for that Yeah, it will be fascinating.

37:53 - 37:54

Town Hall

Right, even if Deb can't make it.

37:55 - 37:57

Town Hall

Yeah, or I could call them.

37:57 - 37:57

Town Hall

Yes, you could.

37:58 - 38:01

Town Hall

Either way, they're not exactly.

38:01 - 38:01

Town Hall

Riveting.

38:02 - 38:03

Town Hall

Rivetingly important.

38:03 - 38:06

Town Hall

Well, now that I know what they're about, I'm very curious.

38:08 - 38:09

Town Hall

Yeah, they're fascinating.

38:10 - 38:10

Town Hall

That's true.

38:11 - 38:12

Town Hall

And there's another poll.

38:13 - 38:14

Town Hall

That's a yellow one.

38:14 - 38:18

Town Hall

So Thursday the 26th.

38:18 - 38:21

Town Hall

Thursday 26, and the time is 6.30.

38:23 - 38:24

Town Hall

If we do 6.45.

38:24 - 38:25

Town Hall

6.45, 6.45.

38:26 - 38:26

Town Hall

Okay.

38:27 - 38:28

Town Hall

So I have to pick a number.

38:30 - 38:32

Town Hall

Well, one of us does, yeah.

38:32 - 38:33

Town Hall

But that's okay.

38:33 - 38:35

Town Hall

So that makes it even, 6.45 is better then.

38:36 - 38:36

Town Hall

Okay.

38:38 - 38:39

Town Hall

Thank you.

38:47 - 38:50

Town Hall

This is assuming that highway and...

38:50 - 38:51

Town Hall

And the school.

38:51 - 38:52

Town Hall

Right.

38:56 - 38:59

Town Hall

Right and assuming the weather cooperates for the Highway Department.

39:03 - 39:13

Town Hall

School usually meets on Thursday nights anyway, so presumably I mean they don't
Different Thursday, but they mean Thursday's their night.

39:19 - 39:22

Town Hall

Okay, well unless we find out that doesn't work for.

39:26 - 39:30

Town Hall

Them is that it Joe as far as that's concerned That's.

39:30 - 39:30

JOE BOUDREAU

All I.

39:30 - 39:31

JOE BOUDREAU

Have.

39:31 - 39:32

JOE BOUDREAU

So it's.

39:32 - 39:32

Town Hall

Next time.

39:33 - 39:33

JOE BOUDREAU

It's 45.

39:35 - 39:45

Town Hall

Can I ask you to explain to me what the mechanism was that allowed us to balance, ultimately, the budget this year?

39:46 - 39:47

Town Hall

New growth, right?

39:48 - 39:50

Town Hall

No, it was the estimated local revenues.

39:51 - 39:59

Town Hall

Would you change the estimated local revenue figure to the 300 ,000 from the 245 that I think it had been before?

40:01 - 40:12

JOE BOUDREAU

It was a combination of what came in a new growth, which is still an estimate, and increasing local receipts, which balanced the budget, there was nothing else used.

40:13 - 40:18

Town Hall

So was there in fact more new growth than expected?

40:21 - 40:30

JOE BOUDREAU

I believe it came in a little bit more than estimated, but I would have to look to see, you know, what it actually came in, but that's still an estimate.

40:31 - 40:36

JOE BOUDREAU

And it's currently being estimated as the same as last year.

40:38 - 40:52

JOE BOUDREAU

I happen to know one assessor, We asked that assessor to find out from the board of assessors what they estimate for new growth, and they refused to do.

40:52 - 40:53

Town Hall

That.

40:58 - 41:00

Town Hall

But can we ask the building inspector, maybe he would know.

41:01 - 41:13

JOE BOUDREAU

No, I mean, he would have some indication as far as building permits, but it's not the a value in a formula generates new growth.

41:13 - 41:16

JOE BOUDREAU

So it's not just building permits.

41:17 - 41:29

JOE BOUDREAU

And somebody who gets a building permit gives the building inspector an estimate, but that doesn't necessarily mean that's gonna be the final value or what the assessors will pick up for new growth.

41:31 - 41:36

Town Hall

But if in fact there's an increase in the number of buildings being built.

41:36 - 41:59

Town Hall

But the amount that goes in on the building permit application is not what is

assessed, what the assessors actually see, and it used to be greatly low-balled, and our new guys are getting much more rigid about it, so it's closer to an estimate, but it's not the assessed value once it's in.

41:59 - 42:12

JOE BOUDREAU

So, you guys might be surprised to find out there's a lot of construction around that isn't has not been issued a building permit and the assessors find that when they go.

42:12 - 42:13

JOE BOUDREAU

Around.

42:14 - 42:15

JOE BOUDREAU

So, there's.

42:15 - 42:17

Town Hall

A, you know.

42:17 - 42:18

JOE BOUDREAU

There isn't anything going.

42:18 - 42:19

Town Hall

Around town.

42:19 - 42:23

JOE BOUDREAU

Better to ask for forgiveness than permission.

42:25 - 42:26

Town Hall

Yeah, we've heard that story.

42:26 - 42:32

Town Hall

But the builders are more happy applying with our new inspectors.

42:36 - 42:43

Town Hall

So looking at permits issued, does that not give you some indication of growth versus a previous year, at least?

42:44 - 42:51

Town Hall

Well, if you did apples to apples on the applications to applications, but still a lot happens between when construction starts and what finally goes in.

42:52 - 42:54

Town Hall

It's not assessed until it's done.

42:54 - 43:16

Town Hall

Correct, and it's is a used to be a year delay and that's gone but but yeah, so it takes a while for the assessment to match the Intent show we say And when we're looking at the deficit, we're still making a guess on what the state What our state allocation will be right?

43:16 - 43:21

JOE BOUDREAU

Correct So that we only have one round of six cherry sheets.

43:22 - 43:29

JOE BOUDREAU

So We might get one more version, which is the House by the time we go to annual town meeting.

43:30 - 43:30

JOE BOUDREAU

When.

43:30 - 43:35

JOE BOUDREAU

We postponed town meeting to June last year, we got the Senate version.

43:36 - 43:37

Town Hall

But there.

43:37 - 43:40

JOE BOUDREAU

Was still two more that didn't come in until July.

43:45 - 43:50

Town Hall

Why do we do town meetings so early when we don't have all the information?

43:50 - 43:52

Town Hall

It's historical.

43:52 - 43:53

Town Hall

It's the last.

43:53 - 43:54

Town Hall

It's the way we've always done it.

43:54 - 43:56

Town Hall

No, it is in our bylaws.

43:56 - 43:56

Town Hall

Yeah.

43:56 - 44:02

Town Hall

The last winter day before people really had to be spending all of their time farming.

44:03 - 44:05

Town Hall

So that's why it's so early in the morning.

44:05 - 44:06

Town Hall

So we're doing it for Bart then.

44:06 - 44:07

Town Hall

Yeah.

44:09 - 44:10

Town Hall

You too.

44:15 - 44:28

JOE BOUDREAU

The town's bylaw says when it is, we can postpone it until June, but we have to have an adopted budget not necessarily balanced by the end of June.

44:29 - 44:33

JOE BOUDREAU

So the culprit here as far as cherry sheets goes is the state.

44:34 - 44:45

JOE BOUDREAU

They need to get their act together earlier and have the final cherry sheet much earlier than July the first week of July.

44:49 - 44:50

Town Hall

So this question comes up every year.

44:50 - 45:01

Town Hall

It certainly came up last year particularly, and one of the arguments I think has historically also been that the school prefers an earlier time so that they have a budget.

45:01 - 45:06

Town Hall

But by the end of the discussion last year, they were okay with it.

45:06 - 45:07

Town Hall

As it turned out.

45:07 - 45:14

Town Hall

Yeah, Gretchen's not online, but it didn't have an impact on their hiring.

45:14 - 45:27

Town Hall

Right so maybe we think about a bylaw change yes i don't know how you do that before may.

45:30 - 45:48

Town Hall

Would that be hearing or to do that uh it's a general bylaw no it's a general bylaw it's just be a vote at town meeting right yeah so we could float well if it's in may we could floated in May or just tell the town we're doing it in June like last year, include that.

45:51 - 45:54

Town Hall

Do we, I mean, last year we had a good reason.

45:54 - 45:56

Town Hall

Do we have to have a reason if we delay it?

45:58 - 45:59

Town Hall

Isn't this a good reason?

46:01 - 46:08

Town Hall

I mean, isn't it like to have a better prepared budget a good reason?

46:09 - 46:10

Town Hall

I'm being serious.

46:10 - 46:15

Town Hall

But I don't know how much, if we get to hold it off how long and we're talking about June again.

46:16 - 46:36

Town Hall

I mean, one of the things to consider is that we've had this thing where people plan their vacations, like Mike D 'Andiego planned his big trip, and then we moved annual town meeting to the week he was going to be out of the country, and he didn't get his budget passed because he wasn't here to defend it.

46:36 - 46:42

Town Hall

So this is a thing where it gets hard to change it at this time, I think, to start putting it off.

46:42 - 46:44

Town Hall

And I don't know in June how much more we would have.

46:44 - 46:46

Town Hall

We have one more chairmanship.

46:46 - 46:52

Town Hall

That's what I was going to say, is it doesn't really change a lot with the Senate as well.

46:52 - 46:57

Town Hall

But the House and Senator have to agree, and then the governor has to go through it.

46:57 - 47:00

Town Hall

So it's sort of a, I'm not sure we buy much.

47:02 - 47:07

Town Hall

I mean, it's just like, the only one of the things we had was that the insurance or something came.

47:08 - 47:10

Town Hall

We had a, the quote was no longer an estimate.

47:10 - 47:12

Town Hall

Like they said, oh, it'll probably go up this much.

47:12 - 47:17

Town Hall

We actually knew how much, but you know, it's like to hold things off.

47:17 - 47:29

Town Hall

I don't know People I know that if we do have it on a different date not on the date that we have it you actually might be able to attend But that would be that would be

true.

47:29 - 47:33

Town Hall

Yeah But I've planned my end of vacation for town meeting.

47:37 - 47:40

Town Hall

So is May better for you or June better for you?

47:40 - 47:41

Town Hall

It's just that weekend.

47:42 - 47:44

Town Hall

That's our big weekend that we go to Maryland.

47:44 - 47:44

Town Hall

Which weekend?

47:45 - 47:45

Town Hall

The May weekend?

47:45 - 47:46

Town Hall

The town meeting weekend.

47:47 - 47:47

Town Hall

The first weekend.

47:47 - 47:49

Town Hall

I mean, it is fine.

47:50 - 47:58

Town Hall

But I mean, being relatively new seems odd that we're trying to make decisions when we don't have all the information.

47:59 - 48:04

Town Hall

So does the Typically doesn't change once this well.

48:04 - 48:13

Town Hall

I guess once the Senate does their version then they in the house have to do a Basically meet and do a joint version is that the way it works, and then it goes to the government, right?

48:14 - 48:31

JOE BOUDREAU

It's the governor's the first one then it's the house Then it's the Senate then it's the conference committee which There is a difference between the House and the Senate, which could come up yet with another one, and then it's the final one.

48:32 - 48:33

Town Hall

Okay.

48:34 - 48:39

Town Hall

It would be very unusual for the governor not to sign it at that point or to change it at that point.

48:41 - 48:41

JOE BOUDREAU

Does.

48:41 - 48:46

Town Hall

She have, can she do a line item vetoes or can she, has to pass the whole thing?

48:46 - 48:47

JOE BOUDREAU

No, she can.

48:48 - 48:49

Town Hall

The.

48:49 - 48:56

JOE BOUDREAU

Final conference committee budget that goes to the governor, she can indeed veto.

48:57 - 49:02

JOE BOUDREAU

And then if the House and the Senate have enough votes, they can override the veto.

49:07 - 49:17

Town Hall

And that House and that conference committee budget usually doesn't happen until often after the end of the fiscal year, right?

49:17 - 49:18

JOE BOUDREAU

Pretty close, yeah.

49:19 - 49:29

JOE BOUDREAU

I mean, again, you might wanna, I've been reading the papers there's an awful lot of towns who have budget problems Dalton Great Barrington and so on and so forth.

49:29 - 49:44

JOE BOUDREAU

You might want to check with your legislators and put some pressure on for them to get their act together quicker to help the cities and towns who are holding off or trying to balance the budget not knowing what the cherry sheets are going to be.

49:44 - 49:46

Town Hall

Yeah this is a bad idea.

49:46 - 49:48

JOE BOUDREAU

It's a.

49:48 - 49:48

Town Hall

Shot it.

49:48 - 49:51

JOE BOUDREAU

Doesn't mean we're not going to do anything, who knows.

49:58 - 50:01

Town Hall

Well, do we want to, so it sounds like consensus here is why bother.

50:04 - 50:06

Town Hall

I think we want to move it, we should talk about moving it next year.

50:06 - 50:12

Town Hall

Well, that's what I'm asking, do we want to consider a bylaw change for, that would be for next year?

50:14 - 50:17

Town Hall

I would, I wouldn't, but that's just me.

50:18 - 50:23

Town Hall

I don't think it's, it's always going to be a moving target, even if you have it in June.

50:24 - 50:36

Town Hall

I just think it's, if the town people are used to it being that time, I just feel like it's just shouldn't buck it for something.

50:36 - 50:41

Town Hall

It's still not going to be firm, even in June it wasn't firm.

50:43 - 50:47

Town Hall

It would be bad to push it and then not know what we're doing.

50:47 - 50:48

Town Hall

No, it looks bad.

50:49 - 50:49

Town Hall

Yeah.

50:50 - 50:52

Town Hall

We've looked at it before.

50:52 - 50:58

Town Hall

I know, but it'd be a good excuse, because it's May, you know, and you've waited a month and they still don't know.

51:00 - 51:05

Town Hall

Well, and when we were in the tent, you know, May could be cold, and the June was...

51:05 - 51:12

Town Hall

Well, it's the June weekend, outdoor soccer, and all the other things with kids have started, so that was the other complaint.

51:13 - 51:13

Town Hall

Yes.

51:14 - 51:14

Town Hall

Okay.

51:14 - 51:15

Town Hall

Never mind.

51:15 - 51:20

Town Hall

All right.

51:20 - 51:22

Town Hall

So, do we have anything else to discuss here?

51:22 - 51:25

Town Hall

We have to get our select board stuff out of the way.

51:28 - 51:29

Town Hall

I think we can adjourn.

51:29 - 51:33

Town Hall

Well, you have the informational items, the HCA 2025.

51:33 - 51:34

Town Hall

We did that already.

51:34 - 51:35

Town Hall

Oh, yeah, and the chapter 90.

51:37 - 51:39

Town Hall

Oh, the Mullins thing, yeah.

51:42 - 51:56

Town Hall

So, um, I did ask, you know, other boards in town, yeah, but I did ask if other boards in town have a one-way in this and nobody else responded to Joe, who was it Joe?

51:57 - 51:57

Town Hall

Okay.

51:58 - 51:58

Town Hall

Good.

51:59 - 52:04

JOE BOUDREAU

Can in the next before our next meeting, I'll send out my version of what happened tonight.

52:04 - 52:10

JOE BOUDREAU

And if others can do the same just make sure that we're still reconciled and on the same page.

52:11 - 52:22

Town Hall

Yeah Well, they So Joe as far as the ZBA is concerned any Feelings about the Mellon's rule What.

52:22 - 52:23

JOE BOUDREAU

Can you explain that?

52:24 - 52:26

Town Hall

Have you read that any of that stuff?

52:27 - 52:32

Town Hall

No Okay, so that Mellon's what you want to summarize it you do better job than me.

52:32 - 53:07

Town Hall

I'm sure It turns out that if a hearing is continued To multiple sessions and some board member misses one of those sessions because they're sick or for whatever reason They can no longer vote on whatever issue is ahead of the the board because they missed hearing some portion of testimony That's how the law was written And the Mullen rule is something that towns can adopt that would allow that person who missed a session to watch a recording of it and attest.

53:07 - 53:11

Town Hall

Sign a piece of paper that says they watched a recording of it, and therefore they could still vote.

53:11 - 53:15

Town Hall

They can only miss one session, but they can miss one session.

53:18 - 53:20

Town Hall

I love that they'd be calling a mulligan.

53:21 - 53:35

Town Hall

And then the other part of it is I believe so on a five-member board like the planning

board So if one person misses and is as we are now and is no longer able to vote
Then you have to have a supermajority all four.

53:35 - 53:36

Town Hall

Am I correct of the others?

53:37 - 54:20

Town Hall

It's in a special permit requires four members of a five-member board to vote for it
and so when one of them is knocked out to Right not having adopted the Mullen rule
now it's a unanimous vote right so you lose the the one extra vote that you could
have had if one person wants to vote no because we had that with the the cell phone
tower on Old North Road and it wasn't that somebody had missed a meeting but it
was a five-member lightning board we only had three members or four members but
it had to be the super majority then we could not Even if three voted yes.

54:20 - 54:21

Town Hall

If one voted no, it went down.

54:24 - 54:27

Town Hall

So it would be I think it would be a good thing to have.

54:28 - 54:29

Town Hall

It just would help.

54:30 - 54:32

Town Hall

You know, I'm not sure what the downside is.

54:33 - 54:34

Town Hall

I can't think of one.

54:48 - 54:49

Town Hall
Potentially.

54:49 - 54:52

JOE BOUDREAU

The ZBA had no hearings this year and.

54:52 - 54:53

Town Hall

I think we.

54:53 - 54:55

JOE BOUDREAU

Did one the year before.

54:55 - 54:58

Town Hall

Right, but you do hold hearings, right?

54:58 - 54:59

Town Hall

Yeah.

55:00 - 55:00

Town Hall

So.

55:00 - 55:00

JOE BOUDREAU

The question.

55:00 - 55:03

Town Hall

Is whether you'd be in favor of this rule change.

55:05 - 55:09

JOE BOUDREAU

I don't see a downside to it.

55:09 - 55:11

JOE BOUDREAU

I mean, it could be adopted.

55:14 - 55:21

JOE BOUDREAU

Whether or not, because EPA has something that's been recorded that somebody could, you know, watch and sign off.

55:21 - 55:22

Town Hall

On.

55:23 - 55:25

JOE BOUDREAU

There's another issue.

55:25 - 55:26

Town Hall

Yeah, right.

55:27 - 55:31

Town Hall

It could be listening to it, if you'd like to do audio recording.

55:33 - 55:34

Town Hall

You're getting the look.

55:36 - 55:39

Town Hall

So we can talk to the school next week.

55:39 - 55:42

Town Hall

They didn't answer, but they definitely hold at least a budget hearing every year.

55:42 - 55:45

Town Hall

And then vote on their budget.

55:48 - 55:50

Town Hall

Although they hold the budget hearing after they vote.

55:50 - 55:51

Town Hall

I don't know.

55:53 - 55:57

Town Hall

So there's this nice word, adjudicatory hearing.

55:58 - 56:01

Town Hall

And I don't know if the school holds adjudicatory hearings.

56:02 - 56:03

Town Hall

What is that?

56:03 - 56:04

Town Hall

I don't know the definition.

56:04 - 56:04

Town Hall

Oh, okay.

56:05 - 56:07

Town Hall

But a school is never listed.

56:07 - 56:19

Town Hall

I think the reason you're asking it because other towns list what boards and committees if the town was going to include under this thing.

56:20 - 56:22

Town Hall

So the select board holds hearings.

56:23 - 56:28

Town Hall

I assume some of them must be adjudicated to all hearings.

56:30 - 56:32

Town Hall

Any municipal board.

56:34 - 56:35

Town Hall

Well, that's a school committee.

56:36 - 56:38

Town Hall

Yeah, I have no idea.

56:38 - 56:41

Town Hall

I don't think numbers could be included, but maybe that's because they're arranging it.

56:41 - 56:44

Town Hall

Any board when they're holding an adjudicatory hearing.

56:47 - 56:51

Town Hall

All right, well I sent the email out to everybody to think of the Holtz hearings.

56:52 - 56:53

Town Hall

Con Con Holtz hearings.

56:54 - 56:54

Town Hall

Yes, they do.

56:54 - 57:10

Town Hall

It would be interesting, perhaps, to ask council whether we need to be, to specify, to list them, or if we could just say all boards in town who hold, if you're holding an adjudicatory hearing, this is a bar, so they won't have to.

57:11 - 57:14

Town Hall

Explicit you want to ask that you know me too.

57:14 - 57:16

Town Hall

I yeah, yeah, okay All.

57:19 - 57:23

Town Hall

Right, so that's that for now.

57:23 - 57:37

Town Hall

I think we'll revisit this As we're talking about Jeff we're that close to the permodize contract There's one little thing that Jeff and their council are going to talk about it.

57:37 - 57:44

Town Hall

I'm not sure even sure what it is in calendar implementation is proceeding along.

57:45 - 57:49

Town Hall

The school committee is posting their own stuff now, which is awesome.

57:52 - 57:58

Town Hall

And I sent info to Susan to post her stuff for Parks and Rec.

58:00 - 58:05

Town Hall

And sort of, I guess, as people send me things to post, I'm trying to get them up to speed.

58:06 - 58:13

Town Hall

I mean, I'm a little bit surprised at how many things there are that are across that I'm not doing anything about.

58:14 - 58:24

Town Hall

So we've had one citizen thing and I didn't set you up yet to build or review them but I let somebody post their own thing and then I just had to approve it and that worked out great.

58:28 - 58:43

Town Hall

So that's coming along and I am trying to see whether I can figure out a way and I'm sort of there I think to halfway there to somebody you know people have asked them can't you call a member at one of your hearings is they want somebody to me that when there's gonna be a meeting.

58:44 - 58:54

Town Hall

So I think I figured out a way to take the RSS feed from the calendar and trigger something on our alert system for people that want to be texted about meetings.

58:56 - 58:57

Town Hall

So if somebody really wants that.

58:58 - 59:02

Town Hall

But it won't automatically be that you're signed up and now you're gonna get a text about it?

59:02 - 59:04

Town Hall

No, you're gonna have to volunteer.

59:04 - 59:25

Town Hall

But you know, I did send out that one robo call about the last planning board hearing, or about the special time meeting that we had, and asked people to, I took a little poll during the call, and 40 people said, yeah, I would like to get emails, or calls, actually, about meetings.

59:25 - 59:28

Town Hall

So now I have a list that we start notifying people.

59:31 - 59:38

Town Hall

And there actually is a feature built into the calendar that you can subscribe to the town calendar and have it show up in your Google calendar.

59:39 - 59:47

Town Hall

Works like I've had in mind for quite a while or your apple calendar or your outlaw calendar You can subscribe to the town calendar easily.

59:48 - 59:53

Town Hall

Yep Can we can you send out one whatever method that says the the warrant is published?

59:54 - 01:00:00

Town Hall

Yeah, I think you already do It's just that in the last couple of of uh planning board meetings.

01:00:00 - 01:00:12

Town Hall

Well, we were never notified We didn't know that well, it definitely goes out in the regular You have to post it on the website and it goes out in the down email But you have to be on that list which is the majority of the town and I posted the Facebook But I can include this.

01:00:15 - 01:00:17

Town Hall

For the two people that.

01:00:36 - 01:00:44

Town Hall

All right, anybody else have anything else any comments questions we've already adjourned Okay, this meeting is adjourned.

01:00:44 - 01:00:44

Town Hall

We'll see you next week.