

Town of Woodbury Select Board
Minutes of the Special Meeting held on January 21, 2025

Agenda – This meeting was called to finalize work on the town budget for the 2026 Fiscal Year, and then to finalize the Warning for Town Meeting.

The meeting was called to order by Chris Casey at 6:06 PM. Present were the Select Board members, Chris Casey, Diana Peduzzi and Elizabeth Higgins, Auditor John Reid, Town Treasurer Brandy Smith, Town Clerk Robin Durkee, Town Administrator Michael Gray and new-Treasurer-to-be Lilly Baron.

Michael Gray updated the Board on the status of pending and future grants from VTrans, for various road work projects. Some of the projects are already approved, some are pending applications. One is on King Pond Road and one is on Wilbur Road. The Board discussed whether to include them all in the budget – the total cost goes in the expenditure side of the budget, and the grant amount goes into the income side, resulting in only the match being an actual expense. However they do make the budget seem more inflated. Matches are often made up by in-kind work – use of equipment and employee time, maybe some materials, so the cash match will often not be needed, but must be budgeted for.

The Board decided to remove the Valley Lake Road culvert project from the list for 2026 – the application process has not begun (although the design work was finished and paid for by another grant) so it is highly unlikely that the work could be done in the short construction window July-Sept. 2025 (in FY 2026)

The Board will decide at the Jan. 27 meeting whether to proceed with the two NRCS approved projects – there would be a significant match needed for the larger project on Cabot Road, but if there is extra FEMA money left after the two bridges project, that could be applied as match for this project as it would likely qualify as mitigation.

Brandy led the Board through a line-by-line review of all the numbers previously approved and some additions.

These totals were approved for expenditures – Highway \$775,882 and General \$570,426 for a total of \$1,346,308. This number will be reduced by expected income. The expenditure numbers will be listed for voter approval in the Town Meeting Warning.

The group discussed the on-boarding of Lilly as the new Treasurer. We had already confirmed her effective date as February 1, which is a Saturday. She plans to come into the office on Thursday Jan. 30 to get set up for payroll etc. and will start work and training on Monday, February 3.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30.

Diana Peduzzi _____
Elizabeth Higgins _____
Chris Casey _____

Date _____