

Minutes for the
Budget Committee

December 4, 2025

Town of Danbury, New Hampshire

6:45 p.m. Meeting called to order

Present: Ashlynn Comeau, Tracy Feinauer, Jessica Hatch, Anna Hullinger, Karen Padgett

Not Present: Lenny Ryan, Ruby Hill

No Public in Attendance

Old Business

Review minutes from November 13th, 2025. Anna made a motion to accept the minutes as-is, second by Ashlynn, motion carried with an aye vote.

New Business

- Revised Police Budget Presentation
 - Chief Kelby came in with a revised version of the police budget, the changes he made are as follows:
 - Cut police computer to \$6,600
 - Removed the warrant article for a full time police officer
 - Would still like to see warrant article to get the parking lot paved
 - Becky is looking into leasing to buy police cruiser
 - In total, the new requested amount is \$224,001
- Fire Department
 - More research needs to be done about paying the firefighters by an hourly rate rather than the stipend
 - Removed mileage and postage lines from budget
- Wages, Salaries, and Benefits
 - Continued prior talks about wages, qualifications, and experience
 - Noted that the line for health insurance on the work sheet should be \$41,996
 - Jessica Hatch distributed wage summary sheet
- Propane

- As questioned at previous meetings, does the town lock into a propane contract? The answer presented by Jessica Hatch was no, Dead River is no longer doing contracts. Rather, the town is charged at a municipal rate.
- Highway Department
 - The selectmen had questioned the Temp Help/Office budget line, as it was requested last year to be lowered.
 - Ashlynn said yes, it can be lowered. Karen suggested we lower this line to \$5,500, but there was no motion made to do so.
 - It was questioned if Alan will be buying more salt or sand this year.
 - Highway phone line to be adjusted to \$3,300 to remove previously built in \$600 for tech support.
- Budget Committee
 - The selectmen suggested raising the total budget committee budget from \$75 to \$225 due to the rising cost of meeting advertisements. Karen made a motion to accept this suggestion, motion was seconded by Ashlynn, motion carried with an aye vote.
- Cemetery
 - Remove mileage line from cemetery budget because it is now under one line with rentals, leases, and mileage.
- Transfer Station
 - The contract currently states that the town is charged \$50 a month for compactor maintenance, but has not been allocated to that line properly over the year.
 - More work has to be done to fix the inaccurate numbers for the current expenses.
- Welfare
 - Jessica Hatch would like to add a line to the welfare budget called Dues and Subscriptions.
 - This is due to the rise of state requirements, new dues, and additional administrative costs.
- Capital Improvement Plan and Warrant Articles
 - Looking into lease to buy program for police cruisers, but in the mean time suggested putting \$40,000 into the Police Vehicle Capital Reserve.
 - Suggested adding \$50,000 to the Highway Equipment Capital reserve for a new F600 that will cost \$150,000, with the hopes of replacing Truck 15.
 - Suggested \$100,000 for the Bridge Capital Reserve because the town needs to come up with \$345,000 to repair Bohannon Rd bridge.
 - Proposed \$75,000 for Fire Truck Capital Reserve because there is currently nothing in this fund and we need to replace one fire engine, as it is over the recommended age of 25 years old.
 - Proposed \$7,000 into the Property Reval Capital Reserve Fund.

- Proposed \$100,000 into Emergency Services Building , but will still bring forward bond for new building.
- Proposed \$50,000 for Building Capital Reserve.
 - Need new metal roof for Highway Shed, and the first quote received was roughly \$105,000
 - List of repairs needed at the Danbury Community Center
- Capital Reserve for Ragged Mountain Rd
 - Would like to change this capital reserve fund to be intended for all road maintenance.
 - Will need to be voted on to change the intent or closed out
 - Would like this fund to be called Road Construction Capital Reserve

Karen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m., seconded by Jessica.

Respectfully Submitted by Ashlynn Comeau, 12-11-2025

