

Town of Dummer
2025 Budget Public Hearing Minutes

February 4, 2025

In Attendance: Christopher Holt Select Board Chair, Gary Dube Select Board Member, Eric Demers Select Board Member, Tammi Dube, Judy Marcou, Heidi Holt, Diane Smith, Wayne Moynihan, Jill Dubey, David Dubey, Glenn Tefft

Copies of the 2025 proposed budget and the draft 2025 warrant were distributed to attendees.

Call to Order: Chairman Holt made a motion to open the public hearing at 6:51 pm; seconded by David Dubey; all voted in favor.

The budget was reviewed and Gary Dube read each of the warrant articles. The following topics were discussed:

Moynihan expressed concern about property taxes going from \$335,000 (2024 Actual) to \$610,245 (2025 Proposed Budget). It was explained that the town's budget is only a portion of the taxes raised and that the tax bills will not double next year.

Dave Dubey and Wayne Moynihan expressed concern about not having a Deputy Administrative Assistant. The Select Board will discuss options.

Wayne Moynihan asked for clarification on what the TC/TX Software Support line covered. It includes Avitar Tax and Clerk Software and Invoice Cloud Fees for online payments.

David Dubey, Wayne Moynihan and Gary Dube discussed assessing, expressing concerns about properties being comparatively assessed to properties in the southern part of the state. Gary Dube stated that there have been, and will be more, discussions with State Representatives about this issue.

\$5,500 was added to the building maintenance budget for garage door replacement.

Chris explained the increases in Highway Equipment costs – Ben Lewis had a lot of his own equipment that the town now needs to provide. Wayne Moynihan expressed concern about sand being brushed onto properties and asked that the town consider renting or purchasing equipment similar to what Ben Lewis used.

Eric Demers, Gary Dube and David Dubey discussed Ambulance budget increases. M&D Ambulance purchased a second ambulance with the intention of increasing revenue by doing transports. They believe that they can eventually lower costs to the town. David Dubey expressed concerns with the lack of 4 wheel drive on the new vehicle and potential issues with AVH. Eric Demers clarified that the town can scrap this plan at any time, and that serving the Milan and Dummer remains the first priority of M&D Ambulance.

Eric Demers explained the increase in the Fire Department budget. The department has changed from a volunteer department to a paid call department.

David Dubey asked why the Town Building CRF contribution amount was less than last year and suggested that it be increased.

David Dubey suggested that the Truck CRF purpose be expanded to include large repairs.

Road repair options for Hawkins, Blake and Plains roads were discussed. Wayne Moynihan expressed that, rather than prepping a road one year and paving the next, he would prefer to wait an extra year and have the prepping and paving done at the same time.

David Dubey requested more information regarding the proposed Elderly Exemption and Veteran's Credit increases. He would like more information on what other town's have done. Currently available tables from NHDRA are from 2023.

David Dubey expressed concern over closing the Pontook PDIP Special Revenue Fund without choosing a Capital Reserve Fund to transfer the funds into. He proposed putting this item on the Warrant 'for discussion only.'

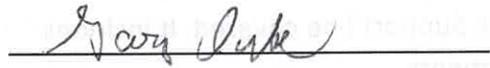
There being no further comments or discussion, Christopher Holt declared the meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

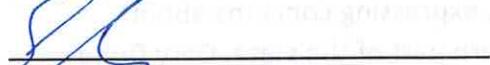
Tammi Dube, Administrative Assistant



Christopher Holt



Gary Dube



Eric Demers

Sign-in sheet

2025 Book & Hearing Tuesday, February 11
School 1230, Town 442

Name	Address	City	State
John Doe	123 Main St	Springfield	MA
Jane Smith	456 Elm St	Boston	MA
Robert Johnson	789 Oak St	Cambridge	MA
Emily White	101 Pine St	Boston	MA
Michael Brown	202 Maple St	Boston	MA
Sarah Green	303 Cedar St	Boston	MA
David Black	404 Birch St	Boston	MA
Lisa Gray	505 Spruce St	Boston	MA
James King	606 Willow St	Boston	MA
Anna Lee	707 Ash St	Boston	MA
Christopher Hall	808 Hickory St	Boston	MA
Michelle Carter	909 Walnut St	Boston	MA
Daniel Evans	1010 Chestnut St	Boston	MA
Stephanie Adams	1111 Elm St	Boston	MA
Benjamin Baker	1212 Maple St	Boston	MA
Nicole Nelson	1313 Oak St	Boston	MA
Christopher Hill	1414 Pine St	Boston	MA
Amanda Scott	1515 Cedar St	Boston	MA
Matthew Young	1616 Birch St	Boston	MA
Katherine King	1717 Spruce St	Boston	MA
Jonathan Lee	1818 Willow St	Boston	MA
Samantha Hall	1919 Ash St	Boston	MA
Nathan Adams	2020 Hickory St	Boston	MA
Chloe Baker	2121 Walnut St	Boston	MA
Ethan Nelson	2222 Chestnut St	Boston	MA
Megan King	2323 Elm St	Boston	MA