

**Town of Benton**  
**Budget Hearing and Select Board Meeting**  
**Monday, January 23, 2023**

**Select Board Members:** William R. Darcy, Chair; Regina Elliott; Kimberly Carpenter

Also Present: Dwight Swauger, Treasurer; Mike Stiebitz, Town Clerk and Tax Collector, Dan Nelson

*These draft minutes of the Town of Benton Select Board are believed accurate and correct, but they are subject to additions, deletions, and corrections by the Select Board at the next meeting when the Board votes its final approval of the minutes. These minutes are made available at this time to conform to the requirements of New Hampshire RSA 91-A:2.*

**BUDGET HEARING**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Darcy at 6:46 PM after the conclusion of the School Board Budget hearing.

Chairman Darcy summarized the budget and warrant articles. He made special note of the \$40,000 multi-year appropriation for the cemetery which is in much need of work and the warrant article for bridge maintenance which is a result of a one-time payment from the State of New Hampshire that can only be used for bridge work.

Dan Nelson asked about the ambulance costs which had increased significantly. He was told that was a result of a contract increase from Woodsville Ambulance. There followed a discussion about ambulance service costs and jurisdiction involving Woodsville and Wentworth.

The budget hearing was concluded at 7:01 PM.

**SELECTBOARD MEETING**

Chairman Darcy called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM

Treasurer Swauger reported the operating account balance was \$444,567.92 and the ICS was \$234,222.77.

The schedule for the Annual Report was discussed, with submissions to be complete by February 3.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.