

SELECTBOARD REPORT – FY 2019

George Morehouse, Chairman

The Concord Selectboard held regular monthly meetings on the 1st Tuesday of each month. Reports were received and discussed with elected and appointed officials along with dealing with a variety of issues requiring Board attention and/or action. Citizen concerns were frequently received and responded to, and we encourage public participation at our meetings. Special Meetings were held when necessary and Budget Meetings were held in December and January to fund the financial needs and requirements for all Town Departments for the 2021 Budget Year.

Selectboard members are George Morehouse – Chairman, Bill Humphrey – Vice-Chairman, Mike Sorrell, Harold Lunnie, and Roger Wood. Administrative Assistant, Susan LaMadeleine continues to provide support to the Board and highway department working three days per week and does an excellent job keeping things running smoothly. Susan continues to serve as Assistant Town Clerk 1 day per week.

2021 Budget

Throughout the preparation of this Budget, the Board has been mindful of the needs of the Town in spite of escalating costs of conducting our business, many of which are beyond our control. We feel the increases, where applicable, are necessary to continue to provide the services we all expect. This year's **Budget increase is \$63,484.00 or 7.7% compared to the 2020 Budget.**

2020 Town Meeting

Article 3: Town Truck Replacement

The 2011 Ford 550 has developed some issues that have been repaired but due to its age the Selectboard recommends it be replaced during the 2021 Budget Year and to borrow an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00. The balance of the approximately \$115,000.00 purchase price is to be funded by its trade-in value and the existing Town Equipment Reserve Fund.

Article 4: NEK Community Broadband – A Communications Union District

The goal of this program is to bring a reliable and affordable, high-speed internet option (at least 100 mbps symmetrical) to every residential and business address in the Northeast Kingdom. The first step is for towns in our region to form a Communications Union District (CUD). It will be known as “NEK Community Broadband”. Membership in a CUD poses no financial risk to the town or individual taxpayers, by state statute, meaning taxpayer dollars will not be used and if the CUD fails no liability falls to the member towns or taxpayers. (30 V.S.A. Chapter 82).

Conclusion

The Selectboard wishes to extend its appreciation to all elected and appointed officials, employees and all the many volunteers for their service, contributions and dedication to the Town of Concord. Working together with the support of all our citizens/taxpayers we can continue to benefit the Town.

We welcome and encourage participation at our meetings that are the first Tuesday of each month at 6pm.