

October 1, 2025

Budget and Finance Minutes

Present: Nancy Woolley, Pat Harvey, Julie Smith, Michael Teetsel, Chad Richardson, Barb Dehart, & Lois Bond, Kristen LaPell, Greg White, & Tom Paquette

The meeting was called to order at 5pm.

Approve September 24, 2025, minutes: Nancy moved to approve the September 24, 2025, minutes as presented. Pat seconded. All in favor.

Cemetery Proposed Budget:

Tom Paquette, Cemetery commissioner, presented the Cemetery Budget.

- Level Funding: Most line items remain unchanged from the prior year.
- Mowing Contracts: Tom sought three mowing proposals and expressed preference for hiring locally.
- Tree Maintenance: Discussion focused on the need for tree removal particularly at North Hollow Cemetery where three large trees must be taken down.
- Cemetery Reserve Account: Members discussed the origin of the reserve account and whether Town Meeting action would be required to clarify its use or ongoing maintenance.
- Surveying Costs: Surveying needs at Woodlawn Cemetery were raised. While no funds were included in the operating budget, the Reserve Account could cover these costs. Based on this, the operating budget was left as proposed.

Park Proposed Budget:

Nancy Woolley presented the Park Budget.

- Level Funding: Budget remained the same as the previous year.
- Tree Removal: Two trees in the park require removal; this was the main concern discussed.
- Farmers Market: Committee discussed the continuation of the Farmers Market, with the idea of rotating locations around the park each week.
- Bandstand Use: Concerns were raised about children climbing on the bandstand during the Library's event held at the same time as the Farmers Market. Members agreed to further consideration may be needed to protect the structure while still encouraging public use of the space.

Variance Review:

Very little change has occurred since the last meeting, no further discussion.

Chad made a motion to adjourn. Pat seconded it.

Meeting adjourned at 6:04 pm

Next Meeting will be on Wednesday, October 8, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,

Julie Smith