

**ALBURGH SELECT BOARD
BUDGET MEETING
DECEMBER 15, 2021**

Present: Carol Behrman, Russell Duchaine, Alton Bruso, Josie Henry, Danielle James Choiniere, Shawn Creller, Donna Boumil, Nicholas Palmer

Meeting opened at 6:07 PM by Chair Josie Henry.

The board centered on the highway budget this session and discussed a \$411,000 surplus in the highway fund. Highway surpluses are allowed to be carried and combined year-to-year. \$157,841 was used to purchase a new tractor and mower without having to borrow money. \$33,891 was used to purchase a new loader over a 5-year span. The board analyzed the pros and cons of budgeting for a new highway dump truck in the next fiscal year or after. After discussion, the board decided not to budget for one in the 2022-23 FY.

Also debated was finishing Martell Road's top coat to the tune of \$180,000. A list of the top 5 roads requiring paving was desired by the board from the highway department before a decision is made. The road maintenance/paving line item was over budget and some members thought it wise to have a vote when items go over budget.

Raises and bonuses were also discussed, but nothing was woven into the budget without further research.

Except for the payroll heading, the board completed the highway department budget fields. Some things like adjusting account names and moving from one code to another were noted.

Session adjourned at 8:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Danielle James Choiniere

These are draft minutes not slated for approval until the next regular select board meeting.