

**Appleton Select Board  
Minutes  
March 4, 2025**

1. Convene, 5:30 PM. (Reed, Esancy, Garrigan, Costigan, Marriner.)
2. FY 26 Proposed Budget Discussion & Votes—General discussion of municipal FY 26 proposed budget, line by line, version 2.1, edited 3/4/2025. Anticipated revenue of \$900k, excluding property taxes; municipal budget of \$1.4 million or a 22 percent increase of \$267k as starting point.
  - a. Town Government: up 4.2%, largely driven by increased in assessing services and retirement of agent Lebel. One day per month factored at local average. Electrical cost increase offset by oil decrease. Costigan: Motion to approve general gov for discussion. Reed: Second. Unanimous.
  - b. Protection and Safety, Garrigan: Motion to approve proposed PS. Esancy: Second. Unanimous. Up 11.6%. largely driven by apparatus needs and continued failure of outdated air packs. Hourly rate also proposed at \$18 to move closer to Union, which is the first to respond along with Appleton. Grant applications are being made to offset projected costs.
  - c. Highway and Bridges, Motion by Garrigan: Esancy: Second \$633,112 projected budget up 79 percent driven by new plowing contract (current contractor refused 4<sup>th</sup> year), sand shed repair, paving reduced to \$95,000 from the usual \$122k in anticipation of favorable vote to move unspent FY24 funds from surplus during a special town meeting.
  - d. Sanitation. Costigan: motion to approve: Esancy: Second. Up 14% driven by transfer station increased costs (Shared by others)
  - e. Community. Garrigan: Motion. Marriner: Second. down 41%, due to no need for parks spending and reduced spending for cemetery spending. No library request as of yet; some library committee discussion of school use of building and unknown contribution changes.
  - f. Provider Agencies. Garrigan: Motion to approve. Marriner: Second. Agencies up 41% by requests.
  - g. Capital Projects. Costigan: Motion to approve. Marriner: Second. \$52,195 needed to complete reval, leaning toward Sept 26 commitment,
  - h. General discussion ensured by cost center and line, with emphasis on fire department increases, isolated from other costs, remains less than half winter roads maintenance. Discussion of contracting for grading seasonally to find cost savings using the rationale of dividing the town into two sections for plowing that asphalt/grading maintenance could be considered in planning processes.
3. Costigan: Motion to approve special town meeting warrant, to approve spending \$15k from undesignated to fund a DOT state match of \$200k for Esancy Road stream crossing grant and to recover \$55k in unspent FY25 maintenance funds from undesignated to reduce the taxpayer burden for road maintenance and repairs. Reed: Second. Unanimous.
4. Garrigan: Motion to adjourn. Marriner: Second. Unanimous.