

**Board of Selectmen  
Special Meeting  
March 30, 2021 — 5:00 PM  
TELECONFERENCE  
Minutes**

**Members Present:** First Selectman Kevin Cwikla, Selectmen Kathleen Smith, Robin Chesmer, and Betsy Petrie-McComber

**1.0      Call to Order**

First Selectman K. Cwikla called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

**2.0      Discuss and act upon final 2021-2022 budget request to Board of Finance**

The Selectmen discussed revising the 2021-2022 budget request for Account 401. K. Cwikla stated he was proposing the creation of a new, union position to be funded with existing moneys in the current fiscal year budget that had been removed from the 21-22 request. He stated he wanted to set the total request for Account 401 to \$155,330. The current fiscal year's adopted budget is \$156,679.

The Selectmen discussed the potential position and its duties including human resources functions and IT support. K. Cwikla talked about the need for continuity in the Selectman's office. B. Petrie stated she was uncomfortable including human resources related functions in the position. R. Chesmer said she raised a valid concern. K. Cwikla talked about the value of human resources support for the DPW and said the crew there is more comfortable discussing HR concerns with staff than with the First Selectman. He said the staff members currently doing this do a good job of keeping the discussion limited to what is appropriate and redirecting questions that are outside of their purview to the supervisor and First Selectman. He said he has not received any grievances since the practice began.

B. Petrie stated that she believed that if created it should be a salaried, not hourly position. She discussed the compensation for department heads that require special certifications. K. Smith said the compensation for the new position would still be less than that. B. Petrie noted she had tried to create the position of Executive Assistant when she served as First Selectman but was not successful. She stated she did not support the creation of a new position at this time.

*K. Cwikla MOVED to adjust the total 2021-2022 budget request for Account 401 to \$155,330. K. Smith SECONDED.*

**MOTION CARRIED 3:1 with B. Petrie opposed**

B. Petrie said that because K. Cwikla had previously presented an increase to the budget to the Board of Finance that this was a decrease from what was presented at the last meeting. She said they should submit a new budget page to the Board of Finance.

*K. Cwikla MOVED to submit a new budget page for Account 401 to the Board of Finance. R. Chesmer SECONDED.*

MOTION CARRIED 4:0

**3.0     Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kevin T. Cwikla  
First Selectman