

**Craftsbury Public Library**  
**Special Board Meeting to Vote on 2023 Budget**  
**Friday December 16, 2022**  
**6 - 6:30 p.m.**

**Present**

Lise, Ned, Jan, Ailynne, Allison, Susan, Paula

**Absent**

Christina, Steve, Mark, Alan, Ann, Misty

**Call to order**

Ned calls to order at 6:08

**Review**

The budget wasn't ready to review at the December meeting so the Budget working group did more tweaking and crunching. They wanted to see how we did last year in order to prepare for next year. They analyzed last year's budget and considered it without special pandemic-era funding and without endowment. Without these things we were operating on quite a deficit. The working group has come up with a proposed 2023 budget and they made it happen because of a large carryover from last year due to extra COVID funds and other special circumstances of last year. We also took more from the endowment than we usually do.

The budget is tight. We will have to keep working hard at fundraising to maintain a realistic budget that works for the future. The library staff has done an excellent job in the past few years of operating within an unchanging and minimal office/administrative budget. The staff will be getting 3% increases in wages this year.

**Comments**

Paula commented that the 3% increase in wages is discouraging for staff. The COLA is 8.7% this year, due to high inflation. She suggested emphasizing the tough financial situation the library is currently experiencing in our annual fundraising letter to raise awareness and hopefully increase donations from the community.

**Vote**

At 6:25 Ned moved to pass the budget. Lise seconds. 5 yeas, 0 nays. The motion is carried.

**Adjourn**

Meeting adjourns at 6:30