

expensive projects and purchases. The Budget Committee also recommends using other local resources when possible, including the Upper Valley Lake Sunapee Regional Planning Commission, the Local Government Center, and so forth.

In agreement with the Planning Board's findings, the Budget Committee feels that research into the renovation or replacement of the fire department building and providing support to updating equipment and vehicles is needed. This project may be of significant importance should the expansion at Mt. Sunapee ski area occur or if there is significant home development in Goshen. The Budget Committee recommends that research begin with looking at other safety buildings/complexes in the area. They also feel that depending on vehicle needs a larger building maybe required which may result in a need to identify a new town-centered location. The Budget Committee and Planning Board both recognize that significant grant money may be available for this project and the town should expend every effort to research funding options.

The Budget Committee recommends revisiting the budget for Lear Hill Road. Since the budget was submitted, summer storms (2021) caused increased erosion and damage. They feel that \$90,000 may not be enough to increase drainage ditch depth. And that removal of boulders and shimming will be a short-term repair, not a fix; and that taxpayers could end up paying more in the long run for repeated repairs versus an upfront and planned solution. Before contracting out for engineering services, the town should consider all available resources to estimate the scope of the project and its costs. The Committee also recommends looking into college cooperative and internship programs that may offer reduced pricing for initial research.

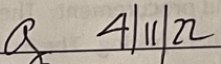
*Policy Suggestion: Budget management for salary and labor needs*

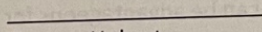
The Budget Committee, in agreement with the Planning Board would like to see policies to manage budget growth in the areas of salaries and labor needs. While salary and labor needs fall outside of the scope of the CIP, those policies will help inform bottom line values in the budget process and allow for more accurate budgeting of reserve and bonding funds. It is recognized that policies would be the responsibility of the Select Board or department heads.

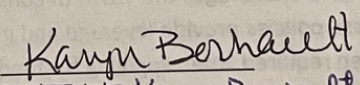
*Policy Suggestion: Additional administrative resources for Town Planner/Administrator*

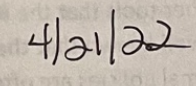
The Budget Committee agrees with the Planning Board that grant funds are available and Goshen could significantly benefit from them. However, there are limited resources at the town, boards, and committees level to pursue such funds regularly and effectively. The Budget Committee and Planning Board recognize that additional help may be needed at the town level to help pursue these goals, especially funding goals, and encourages the town to research the use of a Town Administrator<sup>1</sup>. A Town Administrator would provide institutional memory and continuity through the various boards and committees membership changes. The Budget Committee and Planning Board recommend creating a position such as Town Administrator or Town Planner to help offset the increase in effort to meet the goals described above. The cost of such a position could be offset by including performance metrics for identifying and applying for grants into the position description. Additional research into this position would be needed and is encouraged.

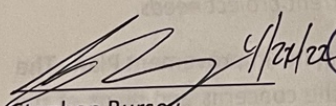
Respectfully submitted:

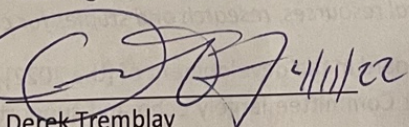
  
Alicea Bursey  
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Kayn Bernhardt  
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 4/21/22  
Stephen Bursey  
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 4/11/22  
Derek Tremblay  
Ex-officio to Board of Selectmen

<sup>1</sup> Hallquist, Kimberly (2006) "Town Managers vs. Town Administrators: What's the Difference?", in Town and Country Magazine by New Hampshire Municipal Association.