



STAFF REPORT

AGENDA ITEM #: 21-117
COUNCIL MTG OF: September 21, 2021
FROM: Administration
OFFERED BY: Administration
PREPARED BY: Administration
SUBJECT: Setting the Town Moderator's Compensation

INTRODUCTION

The Town Council is being requested to set the compensation of the Town Moderator.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS

See comments within this staff report.

BACKGROUND

By New Hampshire State Law, the Legislative Body of the Town is required to set the elected Town Moderator's salary. Per Section 5.1 of the Town Charter, the Town Council is both the legislative and governing bodies of the Town. Currently, the Moderator is compensated at the rate of \$150 per election.

DISCUSSION

The Town Moderator's responsibilities have increased substantially over the last year, due to the introduction of new election laws and procedures, the rising use of absentee ballots, and the overall political atmosphere which closely scrutinizes all election activities. Many other communities have experienced the same impacts and have adjusted the compensation for their Moderators, with some communities transitioning to a monthly stipend. An increase from \$150 to \$500 per election would certainly not compensate the Moderator for all time invested but would reflect an amount which is more appropriate.

FISCAL IMPACT

The additional compensation will add \$450 per election moving forward, or \$1,350 in FY 22.

RECOMMENDED ACTION BY COUNCIL

To adopt Resolution #2021-060 (please read Resolution #2021-060)

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