

Town Budget Public Hearing

1/22/19

Attendance:

Budget Committee:

Bonnie Gagnon, Vice Chair
Roxanne Tufts-Keegan, Chair
Dave Maier, Board Member
Janet Kalar – Village District Rep

Joe Bailey – Board of Selectman Rep
Tracy Donovan-Laviolette, Secretary
Mary Knapp – Board Member

Absent:

Ken Garry – School Board Rep

Mary Knapp was sworn into office for the budget committee by moderator Jack Savage.

6:36 pm – Public Hearing called to order by Roxanne Tufts-Keegan.

Pledge of Allegiance

Town Budget

The budget will be discussed in sections on the budget statement. All wage lines have a proposed increase of 5%.

Executive – The budget committee proposed a total of 126,408.20

Clerk – The budget committee proposed a total of 38,073.00

Collector – The budget committee proposed a total of 31,866.00

The splitting of the clerk and collector position was discussed. Tax collector will be one day a week.

Assessor – The budget committee proposed a total of 34,418.00.

The assessing clerk position will go from one day a week to two days a week.

Attorney/Administration – The budget committee proposed a total of 311,286.00.

The town has nine full time employees with benefits.

Planning Board – The budget committee proposed a total of 5,961.00.

Zoning Board – The budget committee proposed a total of 1,150.00.

Government – The budget committee proposed a total of 64,111.00.

Line 4194-40 Repairs OTH is proposed 5,500.00. The selectman would like to have the eaves of the building fixed, new sump pumps and paint the exterior of the building. When the budget committee asked if the selectman could foresee any further need of monies other than general maintenance it was stated that a new roof may possibly be needed in the near future.

Line 4194-41 Repairs Mun Bld is proposed 15,000.00. The selectman would like to have new carpeting installed in the municipal building.

Insurance – The budget committee proposed a total of 35,069.00

Police – The budget committee proposed a total of 347,052.00.

The police department currently has four full time and seven part time officers. Selectman were asked why is the overtime line so high? Selectman stated in 2018 they had to cover positions for officers on light duty.

EMS – The budget committee proposed a total of 60,500.00.

Revenue from the ambulance is 36,000.

Fire – The budget committee proposed a total of 62,191.00.

Line 4240-01 – 4240-10 – The budget committee proposed a total of 8,854.00.

Emergency management – The budget committee proposed a total of 7,600.00.

Highway – The budget committee proposed a total of 439,118.00.

Lines 4316-01 – 4323-05 – The budget committee proposed a total of 169,753.00.

Animal Control – The budget committee proposed a total of 5,875.00.

Donation – The budget committee proposed a total of 4,525.00.

Welfare – The budget committee proposed a total of 13,615.00.

Question asked if we knew how many federal workers that are furlough might require help.

That number is unknown till they come to the welfare office.

Park – The budget committee proposed a total of 5,000.00.

Conservation – The budget committee proposed a total of 1,210.00.

Line 4619-04 CC Legal Fee – The budget committee proposed 400.00.

Line 4711-03-Gov – line 6120-02 – The budget committee proposed a total of 41,272.00.

Grand total of the proposed budget for the town by the budget committee is 2,140,408.20.

Warrant Articles -

All warrant articles were discussed. The warrant articles are in a different order from the previous nights budget committee meeting on January 21, 2019.

There are two additional warrant articles presented by the Selectman that were not presented at the January 21, 2019 meeting.

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of three thousand dollars (\$3,000) to be added to the data & equipment capital reserve fund. (Majority vote required)

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) to be added to the highway department vehicle capital reserve fund. (Majority vote required)

The warrant article for the construction and furnishing has increased from the previous nights numbers to 1,700,000. To read as follows.

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one million seven hundred thousand dollars (1,700,000) for the construction and furnishing of a new highway facility, with one million three hundred thousand dollars (1,300,000) to come from the issuance of bonds or notes in accordance with the municipal finance act (RSA 33) and to authorize municipal officials to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and to accept such grants and other revenues as may be available, and to obtain four hundred thousand (400,000) from the fund balance. (Two thirds majority required)

The moderator states this will be voted by ballot and the polls must be opened for an hour. He suggested maybe someone recommending this article be moved to the beginning of town meeting. He also stated that if the budget committee did not recommend this article due to the ten percent (10%) law this article would be killed with just their recommendation. The wording on the article would have to be changed to allow the voters to go over the ten percent (10%).

There was discussion on the warrant article for a study for a town administrator. The selectman state the town has grown and there is a lot of work and it's just a study to see if having an administrator would be feasible for the town. To read as follows.

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of four thousand dollars (\$4,000) for the purpose of researching the feasibility of hiring a town administrator. (Majority vote required)

The warrant article for the thermal camera still has a discrepancy between the wording and the numerical values. The correct amount is \$8,792.00. The wording to come from a FEMA grant has also been removed. The article should now read as follows.

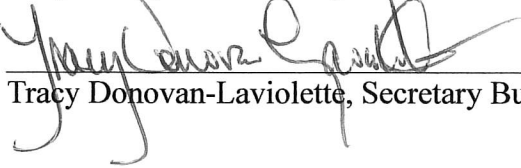
To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of eight thousand seven hundred ninety two (\$8,792) for the purpose of purchasing one (1) MSA evolution 6000 plus thermal imaging camera. (Majority vote required)

Petition warrant article deadline is February 5, 2019.

There is a school board meeting before the deliberative session on February 9, 2019 at 9:00 am.

8:17 pm – Bonnie Gagnon made a motion to adjourn the Town Budget Public Hearing, seconded by Janet Kalar, the committee voted, motion passed. (7-0-0)

Respectfully Submitted by



Tracy Donovan-Laviolette, Secretary Budget Committee