

Budget Committee Meeting  
April 20, 2017

Attendance: Roland Cloutier, Timothy Goodwin, Peter Starstecki, Katherine Post, Martha Hurd-Call, Philip Pomerleau

Excused: Ellen Kasprzyk,

Meeting opened at 7:02 pm with Roll Call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was an error in the meeting minutes from 4/19/2017. Under Public Safety, the sentence saying Standish did not have any EMTs on staff last year was incorrect. Standish did have EMTs on staff last year, but did not have any Paramedics on staff. Two Paramedics were trained last year and are now providing coverage in Standish. Therefore Standish will see a reduction in the need to contract an intercept with other towns.

This error is now corrected and the minutes of the meeting were accepted as amended – vote – 6 – 0.

Old Business:

Salaries – Tim Goodwin presented his findings after reviewing the salary information provided to the Budget Committee.

There was a motion made and seconded to replace the 5% across the board salary increase. Instead, the salary increase would be a flat dollar increase of \$2,373 for all full time salary personnel; a \$1.19 per hour increase for all part-time and full-time hourly personnel with the exception of those people who have contracts already in force; or if the \$1.19 per hour increase results in less than the COLA increase (2.7% as of Feb, 2017), those positions would increase by 2.7%. This would result in some employees receiving more than a 5% increase and some employees receiving less than a 5% increase, with a minimum increase of 2.7%. vote – 2 – 3 with 1 abstain – motion declined.

There was a motion made and seconded to increase full-time salary personnel by 5% and full and part-time personnel by \$1.19 per hour. This again increases some hourly employees more and some employees less than a 5% increase. – vote 3 – 2 with 1 abstain – motion passed.

The Budget Committee recommends the Town Council removes the Furlough hours from the budget, since most of the Town employees surveyed would like to continue working the same hours they have worked for the last several years. Vote – 5 – 0 with 1 abstain.

New Business: Continuance of Budget Review of Departments

Capital Outlay

There were no questions or discussions regarding the items in this section.

Employee Benefits

There were no questions or discussions regarding the items in this section.

Insurance

There were no questions or discussions regarding the items in this section.

Debt Service

There were no questions or discussions regarding the items in this section.

#### Transfers Out

There were no questions or discussions regarding the items in this section.

#### Recreation Special Revenue Fund

There were no questions or discussions regarding the items in this section.

#### Municipal Capital Projects

##### Public Safety

There were no questions or discussions regarding the items in this section.

##### General Admin

There were no questions or discussions regarding the items in this section.

##### Parks and Recreation

There was a motion made and seconded to change the Multi-passenger Van request to purchase 2 vans with a maximum of \$40,000 being spent. Vote 4 – 0 with 2 abstain – motion passed.

##### Public Works

There were no questions or discussions regarding the items in this section.

#### Revenues

There was discussion regarding the Towns fund balance policy. The current policy requires the Town of Standish keep a percentage of the Town's expenses in a surplus account in the event of a catastrophic emergency in the Town. This balance changes from month to month and generally runs between 16.67% and 25% and presently has a balance about \$3,000,000. The current budget proposal includes Use of Surplus funds of \$500,000. to help reduce the towns FY18 tax burden.

There was a motion made and seconded to use an additional portion of the surplus funds, in the amount of \$375,000 to pay for the renovation of Steep Falls Fire Barn this year. This would eliminate the need to purchase a 10 year bond to fund this project. – vote - 4 – 2 – motion passed.

There was a motion made and passed to reduce the CEO Consulting revenue line to \$2,000. This is to match the reduction in the line item expenses. Vote – 6 – 0 – motion passed.

Philip Pomerleau requested the Donations budget re-opened regarding the Leavitt's Mill donation. A motion was made and seconded to re-open this item. Vote – 4 – 2 – motion passed.

There was discussion regarding the previous evening's increase of this item to \$10,000.

A motion was made and seconded to reduce the Leavitt's Mill Health Clinic to \$2,000 – vote – 4 – 2 – motion passed.

There was a motion made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 pm and return to continue with the other items for review on Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katherine Post  
Secretary