

Budget Committee Meeting
April 19, 2017

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

Excused: Philip Pomerleau, Ellen Kasprzyk,

Meeting opened at 7:00 pm with Roll Call and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Old Business:

Roland Cloutier announced the Town of Standish salary information had been received but not everyone has had a chance to review the material. We will table this discussion to tomorrow night's meeting.

Scott Gesualdi is still gathering the answers to last week's Budget Committee questions. Roland hopes to have those for tomorrow night's meeting also.

Gordon Billington, Town Manager, responded the State of Maine prohibits conference calls at public meetings; therefore Ellen Kasprzyk could not join the meeting. She did send her questions and concerns in email form. Roland Cloutier had copies of her email for all attendees.

New Business: Continuance of Budget Review of Departments

Finance:

There was discussion regarding the Small Claims expenses and would the Town of Standish realize any revenue from those expenses. Councilor Nesbitt explained the Small Claims expenses are in the first year of the expense. It was voted at Town Meeting to try and recoup older taxes on personal property by filing in Small Claims court instead of writing off the money owed to the town. The Town of Standish has created this new process and any revenues may not be realized for several years.

There was discussion regarding the lack of expenditure in Training. Councilor Nesbitt explained the annual certifications are scheduled for May and funds will be expended at that time.

Planning:

The Committee requested the Chairperson to ask when the Dues and Subscription funds will be expended. Will this also be in May with the above annual certifications?

There was discussion regarding the Contractual portion of this budget. The FY16 budget was increased from \$16,633 to \$42,580 with \$13,571 expended. The FY17 budget was increased from \$11,000 to \$39,986 with \$3,313 expended through March 31st.

The Committee requested the Chairperson to ask why was this line increased? Is there a project this money is being ear-marked for – or are the unexpended funds going back to the General Fund each year.

The Committee requested the Chairperson ask why the Training line has been increased, if none of the funds from FY17 have been expended as of March 31st.

Appeals:

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

Building Maintenance:

There was discussion regarding the utilities for the new town beach. This will be covered until that section.

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

Public Safety:

There was discussion regarding the decrease in the Intercepts line. Councilor Nesbitt explained that last year the Town of Standish did not have any EMTs on staff. This year the Town of Standish held training for 2 positions and now have 2 people on staff. Therefore we will not have to contract with other towns for this service.

There were no other questions or discussions on any other items in this section.

Law Enforcement:

There were no questions or discussions on any items in this section.

General Assistance:

There were no questions or discussions on any items in this section.

Public Works:

There was discussion why so little has been expended so far for equipment maintenance. Councilor Nesbitt pointed out we just came out of a fairly harsh winter and equipment maintenance is being done now.

There was discussion regarding several years of budget overages under Traffic Lights. Motion was made and seconded to reduce this item by \$700 to \$3,160 – vote 5 – 0 motion passed.

There were no other questions or discussions on any other items in this section.

Solid Waste:

There was discussion regarding the condition of one or two of the roll-offs. The Committee requested the Chairperson ask if there are any plans to purchase new roll-offs this year.

There were no other questions or discussions on any other items in this section.

Recreation:

The Recreation section was split into two sections for the first time this year. This section of Recreation covers items paid for by Town of Standish tax dollars. A new Recreation Special Revenue section includes the items paid by user fees, donations and sponsorships.

There were no questions or discussions on any items in this section.

Rich Memorial Beach:

There was a motion made and seconded to add \$100 to the Utilities section for research into solar or other high-efficiency lighting to be used at the Beach. – vote – 5 – 0 – motion passed.

There were no questions or discussions on any other items in this section.

Donations:

There was discussion regarding the Agency requests for those agencies that are reimbursed for their expenses by insurance premiums.

There was a motion made and seconded to reduce the Red Cross donation to \$0 – vote 5 – 0 – motion passed.

There was a motion made and seconded to reduce the Community Health and Counseling donation to \$0 – vote 4 – 0 with 1 abstain – motion passed.

There was a motion made and seconded to reduce the Day One donation to \$0 – vote 4 – 0 with 1 abstain – motion passed.

There was a motion made and seconded to reduce the ME Health Care at Home donation to \$0 – vote – 5 – 0 – motion passed.

There was a motion made and seconded to reduce the LifeFlight Foundation donation to \$0 – vote 5 – 0 – motion passed.

There was a motion made and seconded to reduce the TriCity Mental Health donation to \$0 – vote – 5 – 0 – motion passed.

There was a motion made and seconded to reduce the VNA Home Health Hospice donation to \$0 – vote – 4 – 0 with 1 abstain – motion passed.

There was a motion made and seconded to reduce the Woodsford Family Services donation to \$0 – vote 5 – 0 – motion passed.

There was a motion made and seconded to increase the Family Crisis Services donation to \$2,000 – vote – 5 – 0 – motion passed.

There was a motion made and seconded to increase the SARSSM donation to \$1,500 – vote – 5 – 0 – motion passed.

There was a motion made and seconded to increase the Leavitt's Mill Health Center donation to \$10,000 – vote 3 – 2 – motion passed.

There was a motion made and seconded to increase the St. Joseph's Catherine's Cupboard donation to \$2,000 – vote – 5 – 0 – 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