

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Budget Workshop, December 1, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Desilets called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Selectmen Bruce Breton, Jennifer Simmons, Ross McLeod and Roger Hohenberger were present, as were Town Administrator David Sullivan and several department heads. Mr. Desilets opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

BUDGET WORKSHOPS:

Police: The Board reviewed the proposed Police budget, with input from Chief Lewis and Captains Caron and Fedele. There were no changes made to the budget as presented.

Mrs. Barbara Coish approached, speaking on the need to add \$300 to the departmental budget to cover the purchase cost of memorial flags for deceased officers. Discussion ensued, and it was determined that the Board will consider this as part of the cemetery budget.

Dispatch: No changes were made to the budget.

CIP Program – Command Center: The Board discussed the overall CIP process and the potential impacts of the Fire Department Quint request on the recommended projects. It was the consensus of the Board to discuss CIP items at this time with the respective departments, and to take up the matter of the Quint as a separate topic later in the budget process.

Chief Lewis then made a presentation to the Board, explaining the need to replace the current dispatch center at the Police Department which is now 17 years old. He advised that the CIP recommended that the project be funded over two years, with the first year having \$100,000 set aside in a new Capital Reserve Fund. Discussion ensued regarding the potential for this project to be funded for the full \$280,000 needed in next year's budget should the Greenway Trail Grant not prove successful. The Board's representative to the Planning Board will address this at the next meeting of that Board.

Fire: No changes were made to the budget.

Emergency Management: The proposed purchase of two (2) dynamic message signs was discussed. There were no changes made to the budget.

Fire Quint: Chief McPherson gave a history of the Quint purchase requests over the years, as well as two attempts to obtain grant funding towards the purchase; explaining all had been unsuccessful. He then went on to note that the Department opted this year to submit the request to the CIP, however, it was not supported. Discussion ensued regarding removal of the Town's current ladder truck from service, the value of purchasing a Quint both from a usability and affordability standpoint, and purchase options available. To the latter, the Chief explained that the \$850,000 vehicle could be leased for a period of 12 years, with an \$83,000 +/- annual payment.

Cemeteries: Mr. McLeod moved and Mr. Hohenberger seconded that \$250 be added to the budget under Patriotic Purposes. Discussion ensued regarding the purchase of police memorial flags, which used to be handled by the now defunct Police Association; with input offered from Trustees Wendi Devlin and Barbara Coish regarding the history/purpose of their placement. Passed unanimously.

The Board made no changes to the following budgets which were also posted for review: *Town Officers; Legal; Debt; Senior Center; Welfare, and; Street Lights.*

Mr. Hohenberger moved and Mr. McLeod seconded to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

David Sullivan, Town Administrator

Note: These minutes are in draft form and have yet to be submitted to the Board for approval.