

Budget and Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes 1-9-19

Present: Charlie Pyle, Judi Miller, Tom Anderson and Stewart Brock

Began at 6 PM

Charlie provided updates as follows:

- Budget – Jamie left an updated budget. Not much has changed since the 1/2/19 version. Actual expenses are up about \$11,000 and the only change to the 2019 budget was an additional \$1,000 for Landfill (#4325-00). New number (\$5,500) is actual for 2019 and includes some more testing. Jamie will close off 2018 expenses this Friday. He also informed me that he expects the selectmen to discuss an additional \$5,000-\$6,000 in budget cuts. Nothing specific, he would not give me any details. I would expect fresh budget sheets for Wednesday night's meeting. Jamie also expressed concern that our ambulance costs may increase due to Greenfield joining Wilton's ambulance service. He thinks it might be another \$6,000, but nothing certain (his estimate).
- Fire Dept. Pay status – Jamie is researching options. The hope is that the Fire Dept will put off their request for another year, while research is done. Probably with the proviso that a pay system is established, sitting in whole or in part for 2020. I handed out information that Jamie had received from Bennington on their plan implemented several years ago. I will forward tomorrow.
- Snow Removal – Jamie is contacting local contractors for cost and interest. We all thought that any warrant article should be a petition from residents.
- Undesignated Fund Surplus – Jamie expects surplus to be around \$150,000. Audit will start on Jan 21, so we won't know final number until after that.
- Schedule:
 - Wednesday, Jan. 16th at 5:30 pm BAC and BOS – hopefully, we will discuss budget and warrant articles.
 - Voting on warrant articles will be at the end of the month. Jamie will have exact date on Wednesday
 - Budget hearing will be either Feb 7th or 11th
 - I discussed our meeting the week of Feb 11th to discuss our report for Town Meeting. Let me know if you have any conflicts that week.
 - Also a quorum of our Committee needs to meet the week of Feb 18th to approve report.
- Expected warrant articles:
 - \$430,000 to various capital reserve funds, at the moment we assume from tax
 - \$11,200 for cemetery maintenance from undesignated fund surplus (split with 50% to the cemetery trust fund and 50% to future cemetery improvement capital reserve fund)
 - \$73,200 for revaluation, \$40,000 for a new Kabota for sidewalk snow removal. \$45,000 for fire dept. equipment (discussed at CIP hearings, but I can't tell you the exact equipment), \$10,000 for the Rec. Dept equipment shed, \$7,000 for repointing bricks at Library, \$10,000 for engineering of the parking area in front of the Police Station and \$50,000 for future replacement of geothermal at Library. All these funds from reserves
- Also a warrant article to close the Library building capital reserve fund (about \$2,500) and possibly a warrant for an additional radar sign.

Discussion of various budget lines; i.e. Police, Highway, Solid Waste, but no adjustments were proposed.

Meeting adjourned at 7 PM