

BOARD OF FINANCE  
MARCH 2, 2010

BUDGET HEARING

Present: Ken Martin, Andy Palo, Mark Smith, Bill Crooks, Tom Tesoro, Steve Lupien and alternates Alex Remson, Dana Misner.

Meeting was called to order at 8:45 a.m. by Ken Martin.

Public Works Director – John Marsilio...Chair introduced John Marsilio and welcomed him town. He was asked if there was any thing that would impact his budget. Mr. Marsilio stated that many items dealt with are capital expenditures. One of his first tasks will be to prepare a capital improvement list. There are some significant cuts in this budget. He will make some recommendations to the board that these items be replaced.

The board can remove longevity for the Director of Public Works.

Security, Buildings and Grounds...These funds are used to improve security for all municipal buildings and properties.

Street Lights...D/F to provide letter from UI to Board. Bill has three parts: 1. Rental of Lights; 2. Pole; 3. Electric Usage.

Highway-Construction...Stimulus money to be used for Whitney Avenue. This has gone out for bid.

D/F to provide an analysis of the stimulus money – where it will go; where it is.

List to be compiled by PW Director in a few weeks of areas impacted by the winter storms. He will also do a formal objective analysis of all the roads.

PW-Highway... PW Director has some concerns with the reduction of seasonal help. He feels it would be prudent to put the money back into 522203 (leaf program)

Question: What impact would there be with the elimination of the summer help? John Marsilio to get back to board.

589901 – Elimination of pickup truck – PW Director stated the need for the pickup truck whether it is in the highway or in parks.

Snow Removal – This account is also used for the repair of snow plows. By end of the week we should know where we stand as far as payroll is concerned. As of March 2<sup>nd</sup> there is about \$18,000 left in the account.

PW-Maintenance – Town Hall HVAC needs attention. This building should also be monitored.

Disposal Area – Supervisor-Solid Waste position will be filled.

Town Engineer – 102 Pt Engineer has been cut. What services are lost?

888 Capital Outlay – reduced to zero. Could be postponed to later in year.

Custodial – Overtime – now that private cleaning service has gone bankrupt, overtime might be needed.

Tree Warden – Warren Jacques present. This budget is a blue print of last year's budget. 205 account...most bills are incurred at the end of March.

Parks – 102 PT Administrative Assistant - Mr. Marsilio feels \$2,000 would be appropriate for clerical fees. Account 522201 needs to be created for clerical fees.

Seasonal help – Mr. Marsilio asked Board to revisit this account. He is convinced a good portion should be reinstated.

589901 – Annual Rental – First Selectman eliminated chevy truck. Pick up truck from highway-maintenance should go here.

If seasonal does not get reinstated, don't know if work will get done.

Inland-Wetlands – 556601-Seminars/Conferences – rules and regulations change all the time thus the need to attend these seminars and conferences.

Recycling...

Town Hall – 889 Capital & Non-Recurring – account used for capital purchases of a one time nature. Currently has \$43,000 in it.

Break 11:00 – 11:15

Probate – 602 – 65% increase

Employee Benefits...Unemployment-Town is self-insured and assumes 100% of the cost. Appointed people and seasonal people are all collecting.

Debt Service – Note sale – April – 2.5 million; BANS – 14 million

Revenues – Discussion of revenues took place with Director of Finance Maria Pires.

Lunch Break 11:50 – 1:00

Police –

Animal Control – Lynn DellaBianca...Public Works taking over mechanics of vehicles. Overtime- request a nominal increase. Run rate suggests \$2,000 might not be enough. Overtime calls come in later in the day. Seasonal

Emergency Management – Lieut. Ron Kirby...Eliminated publications. State providing everything for free.

Overtime shows an 11% increase. This covers 4 hours for Lieut. Kirby to come in and 2 hours for Brian Case to come in for IT work. This is at their hourly rate.

Central Emergency Dispatch...Clerical fees – 10 meetings @ \$60/ea. = \$600

Special Detail – These fees are recorded through a special agency account.

Police Department – Chief Kiely – three big items in this account are manpower, equipment and training.

FT Salary – shows \$300,000 decrease. Three vacant positions create challenges. There is no attrition.

Training – with the reduction of \$3500, would the Police Department be able to provide the training.

Canine unit is reflected in this budget. \$42,000 cost is used for the dog. The dog is a tool for officers on patrol.

Highway to service vehicles. Vehicle repair account used for routine maintenance . Motorcycles not covered by Highway Department.

402 Program Supplies...Covers technology, canine supplies

Crime Analysis Report on website.

Cars...First Selectman recommends 6 instead of 7.

State change juvenile age to 16/17 years. This is an unfunded mandate that we must now have a juvenile detention room.

Enterprise Funds

WPCA – Joe Solemene...A hiring freeze was instituted by the First Selectman. Did not fund crew leader portion. When Joe started work, there were four maintainers. There is now one. He works with the maintainer in the morning. In the afternoon he does

administrative duties. Uniform allowance has tripled. OSHA requirement requires men to wear uniforms.

Golf Course – Don Espach, Dave Galla, Bobby Brown

Course is doing well. They are projecting close of 2 million dollars in revenues. Rounds are up.

Golf Course Superintendent needs to be replaced.

Last four quarters of water usage has been about 30,000 gallons.

Bobby Brown has forgone his bonus during these economic times.

Rates are remaining flat this year.

Adjournment 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Bokine, Clerk