

BOARD OF FINANCE
FEBRUARY 22, 2010

BUDGET HEARING

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

Meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Ken Martin.

EMS - Vi Watson...FCC mandates that by January 2013 we must be on narrow band compliance (cost \$250,000). Mr. Crooks thinks something like this would qualify for a bonding package. Town is working with Monroe and Easton to do just thins.

Revenues - again projecting \$1,000,000. As of January 2010, \$624,000 collected.

Fire Hydrants - letter is received from Aquarium every six months.

Fire Marshal - Megan Murphy...Megan cut her budget 2.49%.

The 105 account might be better at \$10,000.

Building - Graham Bissett...reduced his budget by 2%. Permit fees have been increased. This should increase revenue.

Town Attorney...Previous structure was for four attorneys with benefits. That system did not track work hours. First Selectman feels it is appropriate to eliminate health benefits and pension. He has asked the town attorneys to keep track of the hours they spend and on what project it was spent. Using the town attorney's budget from last year, he added back FICA and medical to come up with \$275,000.

Public Events was cut \$5,000. It has not been decided what event will be cut.

Trumbull Day...Funding is for clerical - 12 meetings @ \$60/meeting. Trumbull Day ended last year with a \$14,000 balance due to special detail being waived.

Recreation - Mary Markham...Budget remains the same . Focus is on special needs programs.

Attendance in summer camps up from last year. Daniel Farms had 300 children registered this year.

601 - Conferences. Alternates with Assistant Recreation Director.

Arts Commission - Emily Areson...Budget remains the same. Public Relations...uses the website for a lot of her advertising.

Library - Sue Horton, Louis Sheehy...TeenCenter is up and running. Large increase in usage. There will be a need for a teen librarian in the future.

Sue needs to replace computers. She has been able to come up with \$20,000 to replace computers for public use.

Library Board starting new initiative to increase parking on other side of library. Sue is also looking to expand the library. She is convinced library space could be configured to add additional space.

Fairchild Grant - two grants use 5% of total principal amount.

Friends of Library holds book sales. This year they intend to donate \$20,000 in funds to the library.

102 - all part time salaries remain flat with no increases.

Mr. Crooks noted that the First Selectman, Treasurer, Town Clerk have taken a 3% decrease in their salaries. All appointed positions remain flat.

Nursing - Judy Locke

Sr. Nursing...increase only in salary. This was agreed to by the First Selectman.

CounselingCenter...Grant received every year in the amount of \$25,000. Many programs are taken care of with this grant.

Overtime is strictly for clerical.

School Health Nursing, Non-public Schools...Bulk of this department is salaries. Based on an agreement with the First Selectman. Nurses will receive \$1 an hour increase because nurses are paying for health care.

Health District - Patrice Sulik...Was unable to get third town to join the district. Searching for larger office space.

Purchasing...There are no plans to replace the secretarial position.

Social Service/Senior Center - Jean Fereira...Need computer. Cell phone is used 24/7 for on calls from Police Dept.

Youth Commission - Muriel Cornell...Commission is in a transitional phase. There has not been a director for months. She has been working with the teens to get things off the ground and to prepare for the summer show.

TYA show costs about \$35,000. Fund raisers are held and ticket sales help toward funding.

Election - Bill Holden...522203 - columns not added - \$42,195.

522202... Increase to \$4,350 in anticipation of a primary.

578803 - replacement batteries needed for tabulators. These batteries should be replaced every two years.

590014 - telephone cost going down. This year going to try to have two moderators share same telephone.

501101 - three extra weeks of full-time - primary related.

Tax Assessor - Gloria Curry, Judy Ferrigno...888 Capital Outlay...revaluation delayed one year.

Economic Development - Deborah Cox, Jim Abraham...203 - 10% reduction; 503 - \$1,000 reduction; 504 - same \$500; 601 - seminars usually take place in spring/summer.

Tax Collector - Mary Moran...Has pushed for delinquent taxes. She is starting to charge \$2 for duplicate tax bills. Resolution has been passed by Town Council.

Permits are not going to be approved if taxes are delinquent. An ordinance now being prepared.

Town Clerk/Vital Statistics - Suzanne Monaco ... is concerned about the cut in the seasonal account. Feels there is a good possibility for a primary.

Professional Development...She would like to get the Asst. Clerks' certifications up to date. Would like to see \$500 put back into this account.

Technology - Matt Altieri, Matt Heffern - contractual is the biggest portion of this budget. Office 2007 upgrade - \$19,698. This was the lowest bid.

Board of Assessment Appeals...Clerical fees are too low.

P&Z/ZBA....Only significant change is in legal notices due to economic times. \$150 added for seminars.

Need letter from GBRP.

Transit District - need letter

Nature Commission - Pam Georges...Has received good response from public.

Finance Department - Maria Pires...\$3,000 for Munis to come out and look at our system. Reorganization of department.

Adjournment at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Bokine, Clerk