

**TOWN OF ATKINSON
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, January 3, 2019**

Members Present

Bill Smith, Chair
Wendy Barker, Vice Chair
Bob Malo
Dave Paquette

Peter Torosian
Bob Worden

Others Present

Tim Crowley, Police Chief
Diane Heer, Library Director
Jim Cobb, Library Trustees Chair
Chris Witteveld, Library Trustee

Tom Kelley, Library Trustee

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

Agenda: Two sets of Minutes, Police Department, and Third Pass

Police Department

Chief Tim Crowley wanted to correct some misunderstandings as follows:

- No part-timers are being cut; hours are reduced, not people
- He never referred to part-timers as “bad”
- Adding full-timer would add to public safety
- The Police department’s mission is crime prevention
- Arrests are up by 17%; more than half are not from the town; the majority is substance abuse
- Domestic disturbances are up to 110%; last year was at 20, this year is at 42.

Chief Crowley provided a fact sheet that would help to reconsider hiring one full-time officer.

Member Torosian asked about the FICA numbers for two or five people.

Chief Crowley said it would depend on the hours worked.

Member Worden asked for an explanation of the difference in officer training.

Chief Crowley explained, in detail, what the officers do for training and added that a full time officer puts in 1100 hours of training whereas a part-time officer trains for 200 hours.

Member Malo asked if part-timers duties are different from full-timers.

Chief Crowley said both part-timers and full-timers have the same duties but the quality may vary. He said that two part-timers have left the force and there are 8 part-timers on roll presently.

Chair Smith asked, due less part-timers, would the remaining officers work more hours.

Chief Crowley said they would if there were more hours available.

Chair Smith asked about the Insurance numbers shown in the Selectmen’s column on the spreadsheet.

Chief Crowley said it would depend on if the insurance was for a single person or a family but he did not have an exact answer.

Budget Committee Minutes:

Chair Smith made a motion to approve the Committee minutes for 12/27/2018 with one change. Member Torosian seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Vote: 6/0/0

Member Torosian made a motion to approve the Committee minutes for 12/28/2018 with one change. Member Paquette seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Vote: 6/0/0

Third Pass

Chair Smith made a motion to adjust Library Office Supplies (Line 45501.610.00) from 4750 to 4512. Member Worden seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Vote: 6/0/0

Member Torosian made a motion to adjust Legal Other Professional Services (Line 41531.390.00) from 9000 to 8000. Chair Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Vote: 6/0/0

Member Torosian made a motion to adjust Buildings General Maintenance – Wdpk-Pope (Line 41947.430.00) from 7000 to 6000. Member Worden seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Vote: 6/0/0

Member Torosian made a motion to adjust Cemeteries Care of Grounds (Line 41951.650.00) from 24000 to 23000. Chair Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Vote: 6/0/0

Member Paquette made a motion to reduce the following under General Assistance:

- Line 44421.410.00, Utilities, from 2000 to 1000
- Line 44421.411.00, Fuel, from 4000 to 2000
- Line 44421.440.00, Rent, from 7000 to 4000
- Line 44421.690.00, Medical Expenses, from 1000 to 500
- Line 44421.810.00, Food, from 2000 to 1500

Member Torosian seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Vote: 6/0/0

Member Paquette made a motion to adjust Animal Control Officers (Line 44191.110.01) from 10490 to 8490. Member Torosian seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Vote: 6/0/0

Member Paquette made a motion to adjust Animal Control Kennel (Line 44191.360.00) from 600 to 500. Chair Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Vote: 6/0/0

Vice Chair Barker made a motion to adjust Animal Control Minor Equipment (Line 44191.630.00) from 1500 to 1000. Member Torosian seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Vote: 6/0/0

Member Paquette offered to calculate globally FICA/Medicare by formula.

Member Torosian made a motion to adjourn the January 3, 2019, Atkinson Budget Committee Meeting. Vice Chair Barker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor. Vote: 6/0/0.