

Atkinson Budget Committee Meeting Minutes, Oct 16, 2018

Attendees: Committee Members

Wendy Barker

Bob Malo

Dave Paquette

Bill Smith

Peter Torosian

Bob Worden

Guests:

Jim Cobb

Diane Heer

Tom Kelly

Alan Phair

Karen Trasatti

Dave Weymouth

Chris Witteveld

Meeting opened at 7:30 PM

Bill Smith distributed a copy of the most recent budget spreadsheet and calendar.

New Business –

Diane Heer presented a summary of the 2019 Library budget. The Library plan is to replace their servers every 5 years which means that the two servers need to be replaced in 2019. This is a fairly large expense and will work with Block 5 Technology to see if one can be replaced this year and the second replaced in 2020. The budget also includes monies to migrate to Office 2016.

Diane indicated that line items involved with wages, FICA, Health Care, cleaning, electric, heat and water have not been finalized and will be updated as soon as the information is available.

Alan Phair indicated that unemployment insurance is increasing by 10.5%

Dave Weymouth presented a summary of the 2019 building maintenance budget. Highlights of this budget are as follows:

1. "Sprinkler system and fire suppression" and the Town Hall bathroom remodeling. Plans are to fund these items through a warrant article.
2. New lean tube shed for salt storage
3. 42-foot drain in the fire station needs to be replaced
4. Fire station building repair (sheathing under siding is rotting)
5. Purchase propane tanks for library; currently they are provided by company
6. Kimble House, Woodlock Park, Community Center and Family Mediation building budgets were reviewed.

Ted Stewart reviewed the proposed 2019 budget for highway, street lights, recycling, solid waste disposal and care of grounds. Increases in health care and Town engineering and plowing were reviewed. New assistant, Matt Sullivan needs health insurance, the EPA mandate MS4 (regarding water management) requires sweeping parking lots and roads with curbs and the cost of cutting edges on plows is going up.

The department is looking into eliminating the mowing contract and having the Town purchasing its own mowing equipment and having Town employees do the ground maintenance. The solid waist increases of 2.5% is in line with the agreements of the 10-year contract

Ted mentioned an irrigation project at the Woodlock Park area. He is looking to get grant money to use the pond to irrigate the soccer and baseball fields. Currently, the irrigation is done with the artisan well and there is concern that drawing 28 gallons / minuet for 6 hours per night will impact the aquafer and affect area residents. The engineering of a plan is needed to apply for a grant.

Members Barker inquired about warrant articles. Ted indicated that he is planning one capital improvement article for \$400,000.00. This is to complete the work on Island Pond Road from Brookside Ter. To Rt. 111.

Members Torosian made a motion to close the meeting, Members Smith seconded it and a vote of 5/0/0 approved the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:54 P.M.