

TOWN OF ATKINSON
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, December 29, 2020

Members Present

Bill Smith, Chair
Wendy Barker, Vice Chair
Bob Malo
Peter Torosian
Mark Sakakeeny

Others Present

Bob Worden, Selectmen Liaison
Bill Innis, Building Needs Committee
Nick Hall, Building Needs Committee
Kevin Landry, Acting Fire Chief
Noriko Yoshida-Travers, Recreation & Elder Svcs Director

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda: Reading RTK Checklist, Attendance, Selectmen Liaison's Report, Proposed Numbers and Possible Adjustments

Chair Smith read the public notice regarding COVID-19.
Attendance was taken.

Selectmen Worden reported the following:

- The Board of Selectmen (BOS) approved the Health Agencies as follows:
 - Family Mediation, \$1 place holder
 - Child Advocacy Group, \$1,250
 - Lamprey Healthcare, \$0
 - SoRock, decreased from \$7,015 to \$5,000
 - Rockingham Community Action, \$2,000
 - Community Health Services, \$1,200
 - Red Cross, \$300
 - Meals on Wheels, increased to \$4,311
 - Vic Geary, increased to \$2,500
 - Crisis Center has not been approved
 - Haven (A Safe Place), \$775
 - Greater Salem Care, \$0
 - RSVP, \$125
 - CASA, \$300
 - Total Amount: \$17,761 which is down from the proposed \$27,236
- The Board of Selectmen decided not to go forward with a Warrant Article on the Library repair but to include it in the Building Needs Warrant Article.
- The Board of Selectmen would support a Warrant Article for two additional firefighters as long as the Budget Committee supports it also.

Most members agreed to support the Warrant Article pending seeing the numbers in writing.

Messrs. Innis and Hall reported the following for Building Needs:

- The Building Needs formed two teams: Survey Team and Building & Land Teams which resulted with the following estimates
- Community Center requirements would cost \$35,000 over the next three years.
- Family Mediation requirements would cost \$10,000 over the next year
- Fire Station requirements would cost \$35,000 over the next three years
- Town Garage requirements would cost \$10,000 over the next three years
- Kimball House has no requirements
- Library requirements would cost \$297,000 over the next three years
- Police Station requirements would cost \$49,500 over the next three years
- Town Hall requirements would cost \$172,000 over the next three years
- Other Town Structures requirements would cost \$315,000 over the next three years
 - Woodlock Park (\$265,000 for paving)
 - Cemetery
 - East Road Barn
- Town-Owned Land value is \$1,753,800
- Total cost for recommendations is \$898,000 over the next three years.

Chair Smith asked what the estimate number for the affect on the tax rate.

Mr. Innis said it is twenty-six cents on \$1.3 million because costs were reduced by \$400,000 or eighteen cents per thousand.

Vice Chair Barker made the following comments:

- A \$265,000 parking lot is not needed
- The Town Hall generator should be in a separate Warrant
- For the Library, vinyl siding is a better solution and should be on a separate Warrant

Member Malo made a motion to reduce **Line 44152.350.08** Health Agencies Meals on Wheels to \$3,811 from \$4,311.

Member Sakakeeny seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 5/0/0**

Member Sakakeeny made a motion to reduce **Line 44151.350.03** Health Agencies Child Advocacy Group to \$625 from \$1,250.

Member Torosian seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 5/0/0**

Vice Chair Barker made a motion to **reduce Line 44152.350.02** Health Agencies SoRock (formerly Rockingham VNA) to \$1,000 from \$7,015.

Member Sakakeeny seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 5/0/0**

Chair Smith made a motion to correct **Line 44152.350.03** Health Agencies Rockingham Community Action to \$2,000 rather than \$200.

Member Torosian seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 5/0/0**

Vice Chair Barker made a motion to reduce **Line 44156.350.04** Health Agencies Haven (A Safe Place) to \$775 from \$1,775.

Member Sakakeeny seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 5/0/0**

Vice Chair Barker made a motion to reduce **Line 44156.350.09** Health Agencies CASA to \$300 from \$500. **(Withdrawn)**

Member Sakakeeny seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 5/0/0 (Withdrawn)**

Member Malo made a motion to reduce **Line 44156.350.09** Health Agencies CASA to \$0 from \$500.

Vice Chair Barker seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 5/0/0**

Member Malo made a recommendation for the Town to have a general donation fund where residents, who can afford to donate, send their money to the fund. The Town would then, in turn, donate the money to the United Way with designations of which organizations would receive portions.

Member Torosian made a motion to reduce **Line 42122.875.00** Highway Signs/Line Painting to \$14,000 from \$15,000.

Chair Smith seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 5/0/0**

Member Torosian made a motion to reduce **Line 43122.890.01** Highway Tree Removal to \$17,000 from \$18,000.

Vice Chair Barker seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 5/0/0**

Vice Chair Barker made a motion to reduce **Line 43122.630.00** Highway Minor Equipment/Small Tools to \$1,800 from \$2,000.

Member Torosian seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 5/0/0**

Vice Chair Barker made a motion to reduce **Line 43122.680.06** Highway Other Materials/Summer to \$3,000 from \$4,000.

Member Torosian seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 5/0/0**

Minutes for 12/22/2020

Member Torosian made a motion to approve the minutes as amended.

Chair Smith seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 5/0/0**

Chair Smith made a motion to adjourn.

Member Torosian seconded the motion. All members were in favor. **Vote: 5/0/0**

The Atkinson Budget Committee Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.