

The Board of Selectmen held a Budget Workshop on January 26, 2016 at the Town Hall with First Selectman Robert Morra presiding. Also in attendance were: Selectmen Mike Eremita, Robert Neil and Gwen Marrion; and Administrative Officer Joyce Stille. Highway Supervisor Lance Dimock was present for discussion on the Highway Budget. Library Director Elizabeth Thornton and Library Board members Rebecca Holliman, Polly Silva, Kelly Goldsnider and Ulana Hryn were present for discussion on the Library Budget.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The workshop began at 7:01 P.M.

2. DISCUSSION ON FY17 BUDGET:

Highway Department

Mr. Dimock reviewed the Highway Department Budget. He noted that he expects to retire within the next one to five years. Items recently noted is the need to upgrade strobes on all of the vehicles and replace on one of the trucks. Neither of these are specifically noted in the budget. For paving, we try to do 2½ to 3 miles per year based on 44 miles of road with an average life of 14 years. Operating budget, capital budget and Town Aid Road are combined to cover this expenditure. Currently we contract for the following services: road sweeping, catch basin cleaning, tree cutting and line painting. Within two to five years, the emerald ash box disease could cost the town \$100,000 in tree cutting costs.

Library

Ms. Thornton discussed the details of the Library Budget. The materials line item was increased FY15 level. In addition, the budget includes funds to replace the deteriorating exterior book drop. Statistical information was shared. Also, programs, equipment and opportunities for sharing with the school were reviewed.

Other Budgets

1. Administration – salaries/wages and professional & business training were reviewed in detail. Equipment repair increased to prior year's request.
2. Professional & Technical Services – details of technical services distributed. Official/ Administrative Services line item has funds for Assessor's program and GIS updates.
4. Board of Finance – no change.
5. Auditing Services - \$2,000 increase in contract (has been flat for 3 years).
6. Finance – reflects additional hours worked by staff.
7. Tax Collector – Office Operating line item increase requested is for QDS to process tax bills.
8. Data Processing – Other Contracts includes CREC (IT Services) 2% increase and financial software 5% increase.

- 10. Assessor - includes funds for additional training for Assistant to the Assessor.
- 13. Town Clerk - reflects Assistant Town Clerk position now in other payroll rather than regular payroll (previous employee was grandfathered with full benefits).
- 15. Elections - reflects state mandatory Registrar Certification and payroll that includes two primaries, budget referendums and Presidential election.
- 17. Public Building Commission - no change.

3. ADJOURNMENT

The workshop ended at 8:44 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce M. Stille
Administrative Officer

PLEASE SEE THE MINUTES OF SUBSEQUENT MEETINGS FOR THE APPROVAL OF THESE MINUTES AND ANY CORRECTIONS HERETO.