

The Board of Selectmen held a budget workshop on January 30, 2018 at the Town Hall with First Selectman Sandra Pierog presiding. Also in attendance were: Selectmen Michael Eremita, Robert Morra and Nicole Sullivan; Administrative Officer Joyce Stille; and Board of Finance member Richard Tuthill. Fire Chief Bruce Dixon, Deputy Chief Peter Morra, Interim Fire Marshal Jim Rupert, Fire Commissioner Robert Langton, and Fire Commission Chair Cheryl Udin were present for discussion on the Fire Commission and Fire Marshal Budgets. Library Director Elizabeth Thornton and Library Board members Polly Silva and Rebecca Holliman were present for the discussion on the Library Budget.

1. Call to Order.

The workshop began at 7:03 p.m.

2. Discussion on FY19 Budget:

Fire Commission and Fire Marshal.

Chief Dixon discussed the Fire Department Budget first. The proficiency fund includes a 3% increase. The other major increase listed in 2 line items is for mileage reimbursement (IRS rate 54.5 cents per mile) for EMT and fire fighter training. Mileage is currently listed in the Administration Budget for all. The group also discussed capital needs which included some type of permanent stairway to the department's second level storage and the need for a building addition or location offsite.

For the Fire Marshal Budget, all increases are related to the replacement of the retired Fire Marshal. The goal is to develop a plan by the end of June for the replacement of the Fire Marshal. J. Rupert shared that approximately 100 places require inspection but not all 100 yearly. He added that he believed the salary for the Fire Marshal's position in similar neighboring Towns ranged from \$17,000 to \$25,000. J. Stille reviewed three options for permanently filling the position: hire a part-time person, either retired or works for another town; share the position with another Town (contract for services); or permanently utilize existing staff. The group agreed that improving and maintaining a higher level of services was necessary.

Library

E. Thornton reviewed the Library Budget and many services offered. The payroll line items increase due to wage increases. The majority of the contracts line items increase due to wage increases. The majority of the contracts line items is for the Bibliomation contract. The equipment line item will be used towards additional shelving. State funding of programs including transportation for book sharing between libraries is a concern. Statistics on the library were also shared.

Other Budgets

9. Insurance: for our property and liability with CIRMA, we are in a 3% rate stabilization program; self-insurance covers our deductible.
10. Probate: based on Manchester quote.
11. Elections: based on 7 voting events during the year.
12. Board of Finance: no change.
13. Public Building Commission: no change.

20. Police: includes funding at 100% for 2 troopers and full benefit increase.
Discussion included looking at coverage options for the Town.

3. Adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,



Joyce M. Stille
Administrative Officer

Please see minutes of subsequent meetings for corrections to these minutes and any corrections hereto.

The workshop ended at 8:45 p.m.