

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
BUDGET WORKSHOP  
JANUARY 13, 2022  
MINUTES**

The Board of Selectmen held a Budget Workshop on January 13, 2022 with First Selectman Pam Sawyer presiding. Also in attendance were Selectmen: Bob Morra, Mike Eremita, Bob DePietro, Adam Teller, Interim Administrative Officer Jim Rupert, Librarian Liz Thornton, Tax Collector Lori Bushnell and Fire Chief Bruce Dixon and Bob Langton from the Fire Commission.

**1. Call to Order**

P. Sawyer called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**2. Discussion on FY23 Budget:**

**Library**

Liz Thornton spoke about the Library budget.

Increases:

Office Operating Expenses – increased due to office supplies that now come out of our budget instead of the administration budget that we put money towards.

Equipment – this was increased to cover the costs of computers that need to be replaced at the library. Three were replaced this year (public use kiosk) but were looking to replace 9 more.

Other payroll line- has been zeroed out to come into line with the chart of accounts.

December 2021 vs 2020 statistics sheet for the library – about 500 people per month are coming into the building. Program attendance (via zoom) 42 last year and 266 this year. Downloadable items has almost doubled since COVID.

M. Eremita – expiration date on every item the town buys so we can see what needs to be replaced updated each year.

A. Teller – The Town should look at replacing one of the bank of public computers per year so we don't get stuck with such a large bill to replace all at once and you still have other computers that the public can use and they're not all unusable at one time.

**Fire Commission:**

B. Langton started the discussion about the Fire Commission Budget and Chief Dixon also spoke.

Payroll – this is the last year of the 3-year increase of Officers the BOS agreed to a couple of years ago.

Educational Services – Increased \$2500 for classes – all classes continue to increase in price. They are a number of new members we will space these classes

Professional Services – I dropped it.

Fire Security/Maintenance – this is the maintenance done on our apparatus and equipment by outside vendors. New quote for Scott Air packs – these corrode. New is \$9,000, corrosion in pack that was just received will be about \$3,000 to fix this pack.

Communication – up \$600 per Tolland County Mutual Aid Dispatch.

Proficiency Fund – for FD to cover their gear/gas. \$300-\$350 per person /year.

Repairs/Maintenance – Scot air packs – recertification every 5 years/end of 15 years we get rid of them and get new. 2013 – FEMA grant bought us all new pack and bottles \$130,000. Bottles are coming up needing replacing this year and next.

Medical Expenses – these are vendor increases

Big necessity items this year are the Scot Air Packs – per Jill cannot come out of Capital it must come out of new equipment.

Members of FD: average 40 members per year. Promoted two people to Lieutenant's last year. New members = 11 this year; 6 of these are cadet's (16-17 year olds). We have lost 3-4 volunteers to paid jobs but we are staying around 40 members per year.

### **Tax Department**

L. Bushnell shared info on her department's budget.

Increases:

Professional/Educational Training – for the assistant in the tax dept. to go to some trainings. Pricing increase because classes are now going to be in person.

Equipment – line item that's missing from here – its part of my add package. I'm asking for \$500 for a new printer and a credit card scanner for in the office which is a \$200/year lease.

### **3. Adjournment**

P. Sawyer adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kathy McCavanagh

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