

Milford Budget Advisory Committee
Approved Minutes
December 20, 2017

Present: Karen Mitchell, Chris Pank, Wade Campbell,
Bob Courage, Matt Lydon, Paul Dargie, George
Skuse, Paul Bartolomucci and Peg Seward

Absent:

Guests: Mark Bender and Jack Sheehy

Business: Meeting called to order at 6:30 by Matt Lydon

Mark and Jack discussed the current 2018 Town Operating budget. The current budget is down to \$14,060,271. This is only up \$86,990 (0.62%) from 2017 and is \$2,335 less than the 2018 default budget.

Keyes Expansion warrant – Paul Bartolomucci was asking for the BOS to reconsider having this on the warrant. The DRA stated that we could not keep the provision of the BOS as agents to be able to spend up to 75k as they see fit. Any use of the money in this warrant at all has to be done by Town vote.

Pumpkin Festival – Wendy Hunt is the Executive Director of the Souhegan Chamber of Commerce and the Pumpkin Festival is now being run by the Chamber. The question was raised as to where the funds earned from the festival will go? They will go to the Chamber and it is currently under discussion with the Town as to how the costs will be split. The current warrant for 23k is asking the taxpayers to pay for the detail expenses, but not partake in the profits. Members of the BAC are not comfortable with this or the fact that a concrete decision has not been made as to how costs and profits will be handled. The BAC stated they would like this decided upon before voting on the article. Bob Courage asked for a list of what the Town received or had done to improve based on the profits of the Pumpkin Festival. Peggy asked for a breakdown of the expenses that went into the warrant.

Sidewalk Plow

Questions arose as to what discussions the BOS has had for this item if the warrant does not pass. Discussion from a resident of the Town regarding the actual need for this item. Stated that the Town has been running with just one sidewalk plow for a few years and been fine. Matt Lydon stated this may or may not be true, but there are still sidewalks near him that were not plowed. The BAC will be sending questions to Rick Reindeau to clarify current usage and need of this plow.

Fire Station

We would not be funding the Fire Station bond until 2019 if it passes. Though, money would start being spent in 2018 right after the vote passed. This money would come out of cash flow from the 2018 budget to cover the initial costs. Expected completion of the building would be in July 2019.

Capital Reserves in Town Report – Peg is requesting that the balances of each capital reserve and the amounts spent be included in the annual financial report for the Town. Jack stated that it should be listed in the MS9 in the Town report – it is not in the 2016 report. Voters will be more likely to show support if they know what is in each fund and how it works.

The BAC voted to reaffirm the target of 125k as the balance of the Town Conservation Land Fund.

Peg is asking for the balance left from the money raised towards the Labor Day Parade and where it was spent.

There was 10k spent and \$4580 left in the fund balance.

Preliminary Voting (yes, no, abstain)

Fire Station 9-0 - supported

Town Operating Budget 8-0-1 – supported

Water Dept. Operating Budget – don't have yet

Wastewater Operating Budget – don't have yet

Bridge Replacement CR – 9-0 – supported

DPW Vehicle & Heavy Equip. CR – 9-0 – supported

Fire Apparatus Replace CR – 9-0 – supported

Town Facilities Reno. CR – 9-0 – supported

Ambulance Vehicle Replace. CR – 9-0 – supported

Public Safety Comm. Equip. CR – 9-0 – supported

Assessing Revaluation CR – 9-0 – supported

Sidewalk Plow – tabled for more info.

Social Services – 9-0 – supported

Blue Bus – 9-0 – supported

Pumpkin Festival – tabled for more info.

Summer Band Concerts – 9-0 – supported

Labor Day Parade – 9-0 – supported

AFSCME contract – 9-0 – supported

Memorial/Veterans and Labor Day Parades – 9-0 – supported

Keyes Park Exp. Committee Agents – 8-1-0 – supported

Auth. To grant Commercial/Industrial Tax Relief

Rename Bridge CR – 9-0 – supported

Swinging Bridge – 8-0-1 – supported

Mile Slip Town Forest Easement – 8-0-1 – supported

The next meeting will be Dec. 27 in the BOS room.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:26pm.

Respectfully submitted by, Karen Mitchell, Secretary