

**Milford Budget Advisory Committee**  
**Approved Minutes**  
**January 2, 2019**

**Present:** Karen Mitchell, George Skuse, Chris Pank,  
Wade Campbell, Chris Skinner, Bob Courage,  
Paul Bartolomucci, Chris Labonte and Peg Seward

**Absent:** None

**Guests:** Janet Langdell, Mark Bender, Chief Viola, Captain Frye,  
Kevin Federico and Jeff Marshall

**Business:** Meeting called to order at 6:30 by Chris Pank

**Souhegan Valley Transportation Collaborative – Blue Bus**

- Janet provided a handout outlining various date points of Blue Bus usage for 2018(note the numbers do not yet include Dec 2018).
- The warrant will be for \$30k – same as last year
- There are 6 members on the SVTC board and another 6-8 individuals who are “friends of” SVTC who help out
- For those needing a ride on the Blue Bus – call 2 days in advance
- There are no steps on the bus – they use a fold out ramp
- Plan on getting new vehicles sometime this year
- Fifteen destinations account for 68% of the rides
- Milford – anywhere from 58-72% usage each month
- There is an 80/20 grant from the Federal Government to pay Nashua Transit – the 2019 grant is up 5%
- RSA 261.153 – Hollis uses to charge \$1 extra on motor vehicle registrations to go towards a capital reserve fund for transportation improvements – ex. Sidewalks
- The BAC motioned for Janet to bring forth this idea to the planning board
- There is currently a study underway through NRPC to have Nashua Transit System come this way with buses as well as a study being done for inter-city transit.

BAC write ups of positions on the Warrant Articles are due to Tina by the end of day, January 18, 2019

Wastewater dewatering unit – The Water Commission voted to withdraw \$261,170 from their capital reserve fund towards the unit. The bid opening for this unit is on Jan 8, 2019 and they will have a final number for the budget and bond hearing.

Vietnam/Freedom Memorials – Public concerns – committee was asked to reach out to certain groups in the community. The American Legion supports the memorials. Still waiting for a return call from the VFW.

Library – Chris Skinner can't seem to get a meeting set up with the Library Director. Chris Pank will contact the Director to come in and see us.

#### Budget Committee Questions:

- Public Works – solid waste – there was an increase of \$100k for municipal waste, solid demo. disposal and dumpsters – why don't we up the contractor fee to cover this? Ans. DPW is looking into a fee structure for this dumping. Currently five cents/pound.
- SB38 money – only spent on the dump truck and the backhoe
- Encumbered funds – yes- \$20k used for assessing revaluation and there is another that will become public on Monday
- Salary increases – in effect as of April
  - Administration received one- the 13% increase took place last year (2018) and was taken from somewhere else to cover last year's portion. This year – playing catch up.
  - 3% in all departments except Police AFSCME and Teamsters (DPW, Water Utilities and Police)
  - The BAC is requesting to see this survey from Human Resources

## Jeff Marshall – Deputy Chief Fire Department

- Wrote a letter to the BOS a couple of years ago regarding the equipment used at MACC Base and is here to discuss per the BAC request. Jeff builds call centers as a career – not dispatch centers, but is very knowledgeable with the technologies
- There is a MACC Base side and a technology side
- Technology side
  - o The FCC shrank the bands widths years ago and are now like small computers
    - This impacted our ability to distance communicate
  - o Milford hasn't changed our emergency communications to keep up with the changes – parts of the Town we didn't have to communicate with then – we now do.
  - o There is an absolute need for upfront build out as well as ongoing updates as we go.
- MACC Base
  - o Intermunicipal agreement
    - Annual cost possibly starting to tip the balance where economies of scale is no longer working.
  - o Ex. Milford Police and Amb currently at 40 watts – Hollis just finished one @ 25 watts
  - o RSA 53A controls how IMA's are managed
    - No one is going to give a loan to a group that has a five-year agreement – ie. They have an expiration date
    - Which Town would even sign for bond issues?
- Kevin Federico
  - o The other two towns in the IMA have not signed on for two more years along with Milford
  - o There is NO plan B – we have to upgrade our systems – all other potential band-aids are just that – expensive band-aids
  - o \$2.5 million is a place holder until Monday at the BOS meeting where they review the RFP's

- This is a “soup to nuts” amount, but does NOT include staffing. That would be paid for with the \$580k that is paid annually to run MACC Base

Discussion around Chris Panks revenue numbers for the leasing of BROX property to the solar farm company being incorrect as they fell short of the total revenues stated by Mark Bender.

Approval of the minutes from December 12, 2018.

There will be a DPW tour given this Saturday, Jan 5 from 9-11am

- This tour is open to the BOS, BAC and the public

The next meeting will be January 9, 2019 at the Ambulance Bldg. with the School BAC

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted by, Karen Mitchell, Secretary