

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 17, 2018

At the Selectmen's Meeting held on Monday, December 17, 2018 at 6:30 p.m., the following people were in attendance: Peter Corey, John Tholl, and Stanley Holz participated via conference call.

The Board met with Scott Burns, Chairman of the CIP Committee, and Rick Wright, CIP committee member was also in attendance. Scott said they met with the Department Heads and reviewed any projects over \$5,000.

Police Department:

The P.D. is looking for a new cruiser this year--\$20,000 from capital reserve and \$20,000 from taxation. They would also like a mobile traffic sign at a cost of \$12,000.

Fire Department:

They are requesting: \$40,000 into the fire department equipment capital reserve fund. They also would like to put \$20,000 into the ambulance capital reserve fund. They also would like to install an exhaust removal system at a cost of approximately \$25,000 to come out of the fire equipment capital reserve fund. The Fire Department would like to start a fire building capital reserve fund and put \$40,000 into it. The Department would like to add an addition to the building for sleeping quarters and showers. There might be regulations in the future that would require this addition. The money could be used to maintain the building. The Committee did not feel this was something we needed to do at this time.

Stanley asked about the ratings and Peter said that is a scoring the Committee gave to requests relative to what they felt was important.

Solid Waste:

The CIP Committee felt we should take some of the recycling sales and put it in the capital reserve fund and put it towards the new baler down the road. They recommend that we sell the old skid steer. If they do not use the front-end loader out at the transfer station, that could be sold as well. They are looking at purchasing a baler down for \$20,000 in 2020 or 2021 with money from the recycling center capital reserve fund.

The old skid steer is currently out at the transfer station, but Cabot would like to keep it and use it at the town garage for unloading items. Scott asked about items not fitting on the new skid steer, and Cabot said he is getting used to it. Scott said they need to let that new machine warm up. It is diesel. Cabot will speak with them about not keeping the loader. They may not need it any longer. Peter said sometimes keeping things costs us extra money.

Library:

The library would like to repoint the front steps. The cost is about \$6,000. A lot of people still use the front door. Back in 2014, Whipple Masonry had a breakdown of the cost. Scott included the full cost in the proposal.

We will have an article on the warrant again for the library roof. It will come from unencumbered fund balance because we had a warrant article to do the roof a couple of years ago and it hasn't been done.

Sewer Department:

The Treatment plant wants to get three pumps, and the CIP can't see why the ones they currently have can't be repaired. The pumps are for Mirror Lake, Hilltop, and Mountain View. Stanley is wondering why the estimate is \$20,000 each. We will speak with Josh about this. This would be included in the sewer treatment plant operating budget.

Highway Department:

The Highway Department got their new highway truck this year so that \$57,000 does not have to be included in this year's items.

They would like to replace the front-end loader, looking to lease it for \$26,000 for five years. It is a lease purchase. This is included in their operating budget. The current front-end loader would be put up for sale.

Capital reserve accounts they would like funded are:

Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund: \$47,500

Road Repairs & Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund: \$60,000

Sidewalk Repair & Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund: \$20,000

Bridge/Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund: \$50,000

The highway department is hoping to reclaim the following streets and roads out of their budget in 2019 and 2020: Myrtle Street, View Street, Snow Street, and Brown Street, as well as the balance of Kimball Hill Road in 2019 or 2020. They are also looking at: replace the Hazen Road bridge with a pre-cast bridge in 2020 or 2021, no cost at this time; replace the 2010 International Dump Truck in 2020, no cost at this time; and replacing the 2011 F350 pick-up truck in 2020 or 2021, no cost at this time.

The Board met with Cabot and Fred to review the Water Budget. We reviewed this previously, but Cabot had made some changes to Fred's pay. He put in for a yearly increase of \$9,110 in Fred's overall pay. Peter said that is a huge increase. In April, FX Lyons won't be needed anymore for licenses, because Fred will have his full license to operate the Water Department. He has gotten quite an increase in responsibility as well. Fred said that he never really got a raise for becoming a Department Head, and feels he got thrown into it. Peter said maybe we can have a salary negotiation in non-public session. Shawn said salary negotiations are not a non-public session. Stanley said it is a personnel issue. After reading RSA 91-A:3, II(a) it was determined that salary discussion is a non-public item. Peter explained that the Water Budget has a large increase in 2019 due to the fact that we will start paying off the water bond. We need to be cognizant of water department expenses.

A motion was made by John Tholl to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2018 Selectmen's Meeting. The motion was seconded by Stanley Holz. Roll Call: Peter Corey: Yes; John Tholl: Yes; Stanley Holz: Yes. Motion passed, 3-0.

The Board reviewed a list of three road names and approved the following road names: Rigazio Lane, Rodgers Landing, and Rock Road.

John Tholl made a motion to encumber the following 2018 warrant articles : \$12,026 for the Fire Truck and \$50,000 for the town hall paving The motion was seconded by Stanley Holz. Roll call: Peter Corey: Yes; John Tholl: Yes; Stanley Holz: Yes. Motion passed, 3-0.

Peter Corey told Scott Burns, Chairman of the Planning Board, that at our last meeting we met with Matthew Kelly who is interested in serving at the Town's representative to North Country Council. The Selectmen are sending a letter to North Country Council to let them know.

The Board will hold a budget work session at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 9, 2019.

Shawn White had some comments on the water department budget. Shawn had a couple of concerns. Shawn said when that position was originally created, it was supposed to be a five-day work week. Two people pulled out when they found that out. Shawn said Fred works the four, 10-hour days in the summer so every Friday we pay overtime for Fred to come in and check pumps, etc. Shawn said the Water Department is the only department that gets 3 hours for a call-in pay. Shawn said the PD and Highway get 2 hours of call-in pay. Shawn said when Fred was hired they negotiated the salary and the Board told him Bill was retiring and he would be in charge of that department. Shawn said when he was helping Cabot with the budget, he thought that an increase to \$24.50 was too much of an increase. Shawn said whenever he did raises, he would call around and see what other towns were paying for positions. Bill Thompson also had sewer licenses and he was making around \$44,000 - \$45,000 a year and that was a salaried position. What is the justification and where is the money coming from? Shawn said as a resident, if we can come with some factual numbers then let's go this way. Shawn said he does not support coming out with if I don't get a raise, I am going to leave.

A motion was made by John Tholl to enter non-public session at 7:25 p.m. pursuant to RSA 91-A:3II(a), the dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted. Roll call to enter non-public session: Corey: Yes; Tholl: Yes; Holz: Yes. Motion passed, 3-0.

The Board adjourned from non-public session at 8:10 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.