

MINUTES
SELECT BOARD/BUDGET COMMITTEE
TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH

Tuesday, March 7, 2017– 6:00pm
1 Grove Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire

Present: Barbara Miller, Ed Juengst, Tyler Ward

Also Present: Rodney Bartlett, Nicole MacStay, Brenda Fox Howard, Peter Throop, Fash Farashahi, Seth MacLean, Scott Guinard, Bob Lambert, Chief Ed Walker, Jeff King, Vanessa Amsbury-Bonilla, Ashlee Saari
Budget Committee: Roland Patten, Donald Parkhurst, Ron McIntyre, Bob Hanson, Richard Clark, Mandy Sliver

Chair Juengst called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Article 13. Budget for Fiscal Year 2018 - \$14,847,037

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fourteen Million Eight Hundred Forty-Seven Thousand Thirty-Seven Dollars (\$14,847,037) for the support of General Government, Water, and Wastewater. This represents the fiscal year 2018 budget period, July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018. This article does not include appropriations in special or individual articles addressed separately.

Mr. Patten introduced the budget committee. Mr. Bartlett distributed an updated assessment of property tax abatements affecting the estimated tax rate, which would affect an overall increase of 3.7%. He explained that if the operating budget and all CIP expenses and warrants passed at town meeting the tax rate impact would be 9.3%.

Chief Walker explained why the increase in the Ambulance Fund, with request to move four part-time paramedics to full time status as the main reason. Mr. Patten noted that this fund is supported by ambulance revenues, and is not tax supported. Mr. Bartlett explained the focus of the budget is to maintain the current levels of service and support the work of the CIP committee, and to maintain and manage the town's assets.

Mr. Clark asked if there were figures relating to the increase including only CIP expenses, omitting the warrant articles. He was concerned that the operating budget included warrant articles with regard to the winter operations. Mr. Bartlett explained the reasoning behind creating a separate account as an expendable reserve fund for winter operations. Ms. Miller suggested changing the wording of the warrant article expanding the description beyond just winter operations, suggesting to add reserve fund to the title. Mr. Bartlett explained the checks and balances with regard to how these funds are spent. Ms. Fox-Howard reassured Mr. Clark that by creating an expendable reserve fund specifically for winter operations, the funds would be managed accordingly and not spent elsewhere in the budget.

Motion: Ms. Miller made a motion for the Select Board to approve the FY2018 operating budget as presented.

Vote: Mr. Ward seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. 3-0

Motion: Mr. Patten made a motion for the Budget Committee to approve the operating budget as presented and stated above in Article 13.

ote: Mr. Clark seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0

Article 15. Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Lease Purchase - \$270,000

*To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a lease purchase agreement for **Two Hundred Seventy Thousand Dollars** (\$270,000) for the purpose of lease-purchasing Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus Fire Rescue Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Sixty Thousand Dollars (\$60,000) for the first year's payment for that purpose.*

Mr. Patten explained that the least purchase is over a period of five years. Chief Walker explained the SCBA apparatus, and its need to be replaced in 2018 due to a 15 year life span. The SCBA need to be purchased or leased at the same time for consistency of operation, as their production and mechanics can change over time creating inconsistency among the apparatus.

Ms. Macstay explained an amendment needs to be made to drop the portable radios from the warrant language and requested that amendment.

Motion: Chair Juengst made a motion to amend the article by dropping the words 'portable radios.'

Vote: Mr. Ward seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Motion: Mr. Ward made a motion to approve article as amended and to enter into a lease purchase agreement for \$270,000 for the purpose of lease-purchasing Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 for the first year's payment for that purpose.

Vote: Ms. Miller seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. 3-0

Motion: Mr. Patten made a motion to approve the article as stated above in Article 15 with amendment of original article.

Vote: Ms. Sliver seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0

Article 14. Sidewalk Tractor Lease Purchase - \$110,000

To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Select Board to enter into a lease purchase agreement for One Hundred Ten Thousand Dollars (\$110,000) for the purpose of lease purchasing a replacement sidewalk tractor for the Highway Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) for the first year's payment for that purpose.

Mr. Bartlett explained the need for the tractor lease purchase and that it would be a four year lease.

Motion: Chair Juengst made a motion to enter into a lease purchase agreement for the sum of \$110,000 for the purpose of lease purchasing a replacement tractor as stated above in the article and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 for the first year's payment for that purpose.

Vote: Ms. Miller seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. 3-0

Motion: Mr. Patten made a motion to accept the article as stated above under Article 14 Sidewalk Tractor Lease Purchase.

Vote: All in favor. Motion carried. 6-0

Article 12. Renovations and Improvements to the Town House - \$1,000,000

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) for the purpose of designing, engineering, constructing renovations and improvements to the Town House and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$1,000,000 of bonds or notes for such purpose in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33) and to authorize the Select Board to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver such bonds and/or notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof and to authorize the Select Board to apply for, obtain and accept Federal, State, or any and all other aid, grants, gifts or revenue source that may be or may become available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project and to take any and all action necessary to carry out any vote hereunder or take any other action relative thereto. Without impairing the general obligation nature of the bonds and/or notes, it is intended that this appropriation will be supported by LCHIP funds.

Mr. Bartlett began by explaining that this is a bond article requiring a two-third supporting vote to pass. The renovations would be supported by LCHIP funds. The current assessment is \$807K for repairs and renovations with \$400K for the roof alone. LCHIP offers up to \$500,000K but \$250K would most likely be a realistic grant. In addition the Town House's 100th birthday will be in 2018. It was recommended during the Arts Center Study to make improvements to the upper main hall. Currently as is, this venue does not produce a profit, but upgrading could provide more profit by offering a higher quality venue with more amenities, including audio visual improvements as well as adding overall to the community by improving this venue. \$200K is allocated to improvements to the upper main hall. Mr. McIntyre asked how the grant money would be distributed over time and how that would impact the repayment of the bond. Mr. Bartlett said the bond amount would be reduced by the LCHIP grant. Mr. Clark asked when the building was last renovated and

how long would the note be good for. Mr. Bartlett responded it would be a 20 year note and the last time the building was renovated was 1995. Ashlee Saari asked about the yearly payment. Mr. Bartlett responded that the amount would be \$60K per year. Ms. MacStay explained that this figure would be an estimate based on 3.5% interest. Mr. Lambert asked rhetorically about the heating and cooling system for the building and when that might be addressed.

Motion: Ms. Miller made a motion to accept Article 12 Renovations and Improvements to the Town House as stated above and to move it to be discussed at the deliberative session.

Vote: Mr. Ward seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. 3-0

Motion: Mr. Hanson made a motion to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000,000 for the renovations and improvements to the Town House as stated above in Article 12.

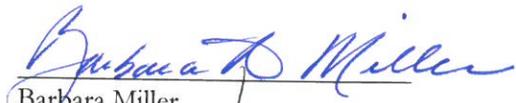
Vote: Mr. Patten, Mr. Parkhurst, Mr. McIntyre, Ms. Sliver voted in favor. Richard Clark voted against. 5-1

As there was no more business to discuss. Ms. Miller made a motion to adjourn at 7:01pm. Mr. Ward seconded. All in favor. Session adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vanessa Amsbury-Bonilla, Department Assistant

PETERBOROUGH
SELECT BOARD:

Ed Juengst, Chair



Barbara Miller



Tyler Ward

