



SELECTBOARD MEETING OF December 11, 2017

Members Present: Bob Beeman, Eric Dodge, Brian Kellogg, Yvette Mason
Members Absent: Chris Towne

Department Heads: Dan Lindley, Town Administrator; Carol Bradley, Finance Director; Shawn Goodell, Fire Chief; Nathan Pickard, Chief of EMS; Richard Keith, Police Chief; Todd Thomas, Planning Director; Charlie McArthur, Lister; and Sara Haskins, Town Clerk/Treasurer

Guests: Tina Sweet, Gizelle Guyette, Meredith McGee, Barb Kiely, Ann Louise Santos, Joie Marshall, Gloria Wing, Kristi Mcallister, Dick Sargent, and Andrew Martin.

Bob Beeman called the Selectboard meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

I. AGENDA CHANGES OR ADDITIONS

1. None

II. BUDGET REVIEW

1. Pleasant View Cemetery

Using \$24,700 earnings from endowment to fund budget. Principal amount of endowment is \$200,000. Have approximately \$240,000 now. Request to Town for appropriation is the same as last year - \$16,000.

2. Morristown Cemetery Association

The request is level funded from last year at \$12,000. This covers the mowing contract for the seven cemeteries.

3. Morristown Centennial Library

Their request reflects a 2% increase over last year. This increase is driven by a 1.78% wage increase and added computer/website costs. Their previous provider has moved, and the costs have increased. To help in balancing the budget, they also increased the amount they will be transferring from the endowment to operate.

4. Recreation – Summer Program

This past summer's program had a lot of staff to cover campers. Opened it up to 5 year olds. Staff ratio of 1 per 6 kids. With safety foremost in mind, increase in training costs – CPR for all staff, Lifeguard certification or Waterfront Certification for staff. Even did CPR training for kids 3rd grade and older. Went to Elmore everyday – weather

permitting. MASP provided free food and snacks daily – except on field trip days. Have increased prices to campers.

5. Noyes House

Would like to raise ½ cent on the grand list for the Noyes House building by an article at Town Meeting. It is very old, and needs a lot of work. The line item in the general budget could be deleted for \$3,000. As the Town owns the building, how long to raise the ½ cent would be up to the Town – dependent on how long it takes to fix issues. Some needs are: bricks need repointing, chimney work, powder post beetle infestation, plaster separating from lathe in ceilings, moisture in basement.

6. General Government

- Insurance – increased from \$310,000 to \$345,000. Primarily workers comp premium.
- Animal Control Officer – backup seems to be working, except we’ve never received an invoice. Agreed to pay \$15.00 hour plus mileage.
- Fireworks – increased by \$500, per request of the fireworks company to maintain same level of show.
- Clerk/Treasurer – training increase due to proposed participation in a 3 year program to become a certified Clerk/Treasurer.
- Accounting – Health Insurance cost increase based on new hire anticipating family plan – not cash in lieu, or deferred comp.
- Map Copier/Scanner Supplies & Maint – this is for the new machine recently purchased by the Records Preservation Fund. This unit can be used by all departments, as well as the public.
- Cloud – We have been cleared to proceed to the Cloud for our computers. Our transition will happen this February.
- Listers – supportive of new map copier – office is open 22.5 hours per week. Always willing to schedule an appointment to stay. If not in office, out checking on additions, and new buildings.
- Planning Director – no fat in this budget – increased only by COLA. Will be revising new house permit fees at some point this spring.
- Downtown WIFI – eliminated due to equipment needing to be replaced. As other establishments provide their own WIFI, people are using the Library, coffee shops, offices.
- LVRT Trail Map – initial costs of setting up and printing were done in FY 16-17. Now reprinting will be less expensive.
- Oxbow Bathroom – Brian felt we should include this. It was listed as a separate article on the overview at \$16,300. Dan estimated the cost would be \$75,000 to construct it. Questions are should we finance it over 5 years? If so, need a warning article to vote it from the floor – not australian ballot.

7. Capital Budget

- MPD – Would keep the 2013 Chevy Impala for the Detective. Currently, the Detective uses the 2006 Explorer, which would be traded in for a new vehicle. Not sure if it will be a truck or car.
- MPD – received 2 viable quotes for standing seam roof - \$42,000 and \$36,000.
- FIRE – eliminate 23/24 \$85,620 payment on replacement of Spartan. Poly tank we are currently purchasing will extend the life of the Spartan.

- FIRE – requesting a new Rescue Truck – austrailian ballot/separate article
- EMS – wants to get 5 new AED's – 2 for MPD, 2 for HWY and one for Tegu Building. Stretcher – can't get batteries for anymore. Nitronix system works great for pain management – want a second unit for second ambulance.
- EMS – replace A-2 with a new ambulance which would by via austrialian ballot – separate article. Quote received at \$216,000+. Would ask for \$225,000 to be financed over 5 years. In 23/24, would replace the current ambulance.

Dan asked Selectboard for direction as current budget proposed is 6.1% increase. A significant decrease would need to cut back our current level of service. Historically, increases have run around 3%. Yvette felt 3% was too low. Some felt 4% would be acceptable.

III. OTHER BUSINESS

None

IV. ADJOURN

Motion made by Eric Dodge to adjourn at 8:15 PM, seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion carried. (4/0)

Respectfully submitted and filed this 12th day of December, 2017.

Carol Bradley, Scribe

Please note all minutes are in draft form and are subject to approval at the next Selectboard meeting.