

SWH Warrant Committee
Minutes of Meeting 02/8/2017
6:00 PM

Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Nancy at 6 PM

Present: Nancy Weingarten, Chair, Kristin Hutchins, Anne Napier, Chuck Bowers, Mike Magnani, Carolyn Ball, Jesse Dunbar, Ryan Donahue

Abs:

Ex Officio:

Town Reps: Renee Atwater, Marilyn Lowell

I. Election

Motion: to approve Nancy as chair, seconded Ryan Approved 8-0

Motion: to approve Carolyn as vice chair and secretary, seconded Ryan Approved 8-0

II. Committee process

The Committee discussed aspects of the process for the next few weeks.

Nonprofits. The Committee decided to invite Westside Food Pantry since its request is new. Life Flight had wanted to submit a request but did not get its petition in on time so there are no other nonprofit requests. Nancy will call Dean Henry, Westside Food Pantry rep, to attend one of our meetings.

Formal votes require a majority of the membership to agree, not just those attending the meeting. The number necessary is five to approve a vote.

We are planning to have our recommendations to the Select Board on or before the 2nd Wednesday of March, March 8th

The committee received a revised budget

III. Review of Budgets

1. Police Department, Chief Alan Brown speaking

Personnel 4 FT, 3 Reserve (reserves fills in when a person is on leave, sick, etc.) The union contract will end this year. One officer is at the Academy. Training expenses are charged to the training reserve account.

The Committee discussed the 401K line. The town matches up to 6% of the salary depending upon how much an employee has set aside for the 401K. Employees are vested after five years of FT employment. The plan is invested by the ICMA. The Committee deferred further discussion until it receives clarification of how the line is set.

The town is still in discussions with providing Tremont contracted police service. Tremont will have a vote on the contract at its town meeting in May. If approved, it will then go back to the Select Board for approval.

The computer line is for Spillman records management program which is an on-going expense to ensure updates.

Insurance: A family pays approximately \$100/wk; single pay \$0 Health insurance has gone up 11% from last year.

The Chief was questioned how the police will enforce the new legalization of recreational marijuana. It is in flux as police departments get more information. The AG's office has sent out some preliminary information.

The Chief indicated that there were no other needs and the budget was adequate.

2. Dispatch

Personnel: 4 FT, 1PT. 3 live in Tremont, 1 lives in Bangor (he's also been a reserve officer for 30 yrs)

The Committee discussed the process of dispatch. A 911 call goes to the Hancock County RCC and then is routed to SWH. With the Spillman system, all information taken by Hancock Co. RCC is available on the SWH computer.

The Committee discussed the Workers' comp line. It is down from last year by 14% because it is based on actual salaries, whereas last year it was an estimate.

The Committee discussed the possibility of savings with a consolidated dispatch. Thus far, the public has preferred the RCC to route calls to a local dispatch. You can dispatch from anywhere. Tremont pays \$44,000 for us to dispatch ambulances/fire. RCC dispatches state or sheriff for police services.

3. Police Capital Improvement

The capital improvement useful life figure is not accurate. The Chief expects to have 5 years out of the cruisers purchased in 2016. The Chief thought the in car cameras were relatively new but would need to check.

The replacement costs column needs to be corrected and updated to be \$82,000

4. Dispatch Capital Improvement

The Chief estimates a 10 year life span for electronics

The radio system is not compliant and will cost approximately \$7500 to replace.

5. Highway, Scotty speaking

Personnel: 2 FT

They are currently using last year's salt and sand since it was a light last winter and thus far this winter.

Fuel is bid out. \$1.429 heating oil; \$1.049 propane are the current costs for fuel.

The Committee discussed the drainage problem on Rte 102. It is the responsibility of the state but may be improved when the Highway Department rebuilds the sidewalk

The town does not have any responsibility for "post office" parking lot. They are no longer leasing that lot.

There will be a vote on a bond for sidewalk projects and other projects.

6. Highway Capital Improvement

Projects: Road projects, Shore road (two sections), King's lane, Long Pond Road; garage replacement (The reserve needs \$60,000;

Busses are stored in the garage. The School budget doesn't contain any funds toward renovation of the garage.

7. Harbor, Adam Thurston speaking

Personnel:

Revenue is \$87, 600 expected. The Harbor is adding moorings. There is no further information on the Hook property beside Manset pier. The SB would like to determine how to better utilize the harbor and land surrounding the harbor so the Harbor Planning Committee is working on a Harbor Comprehensive Plan. Ryan and Anne, members of this committee, are part of the Harbor Planning Committee. With a plan, the Town will know better whether to proceed with the Hook property or other properties and have the support of the townspeople. The Committee will also determine where to make ADA improvements.

The Upper Town walkway is being replaced. Work was recently completed on the Manset town dock.

The town does not require parking permits so there is no income from parking.

8. Harbor Capital Improvement

No further money is requested for projects. The Harbor Comprehensive Plan, released sometime this spring, will assist in prioritizing.

The replacement costs in the CIP is incorrect. The cost does not include the replacement cost for the 20' Eastern.

\$25,000 for a new truck was taken out of the Manset Pier line for this fiscal year. Adam's office is on the Manset Pier so that was the rationale to take out the \$25,000 from the Manset Pier line. There is a balance of \$125,000. The next CIP should have an additional line for the truck.

IV. Discussion

The Committee discussed that the possibility of some smaller items in the CIPs going into the regular budget.

The Committee should be getting the school budget and will be meeting on it next week. Nancy has asked the superintendent to plan to explain the special education law. The school meeting met today and voted on the school budget.

Renee will check on 401K, workers' comp figures

The Committee discussed how to economize to keep the mill rate down without jeopardizing capital improvements plans. Current mill rate is 12.86

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM

Respectfully Submitted Carolyn Ball