TOWN OF BURLINGTON
Meeting Posting

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Notice of Public Meeting – (As required by G.L. c. 30 A, c. §18-25)

DEPT./BOARD: Ways and Means
DATE: April 8, 2020
TIME: 7:00 PM
PLACE: Video Conference: https://townofburlington.webex.com
Meeting number (access code): 713 851 433
Meeting password: “ways”

AGENDA:

- FY 2021 Town Budgets
  - 210 Police
  - 220 Fire
  - 291 Emergency Management
  - 145 Treasurer/Collector
  - 149 Accommodated: Ch 32B Health Ins, OPEB, Pension Reimbursement
  - 710 Debt Service
  - 900 Negotiated Settlements
  - 901 Middlesex Retirement, etc.
  - Other Operating Budgets
  - Minutes for March 4th, 2020
- Adjourn
DEPT./BOARD: Ways and Means
DATE: April 8, 2020
TIME: 7pm
PLACE: WebEx Conference Call

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Present: Roger Riggs – Chair, Steve Morin – Vice-Chair, Doug Davidson, Phil Gallagher, Susan Harrigan, Brad Bond, Jayashree Voruganti, Diane Creedon, Frank Monaco, Michael Hardy, John Iler, David Tait, Sonia Rollins
Absent: Tom Killilea, Rob Neufeld

Guests:
Michael Kent, Chief of Police
Thomas Browne, Deputy Chief
Janet, Mental Health Clinician Police Department
Mike Patterson, Fire Chief/ Emergency Management Director
Andrew Connerty, Assistant Fire Chief/ Deputy Director for Emergency Management
Brian Curtin, Treasurer Collector
Whitney Haskell, Town Budget Analyst
John Danizio, Town Accountant
Paul Sagarino, Town Administrator

Public Comments
N/A

Police Budget Overview
The overall police department budget is $9,188,359, increasing 1.19%. This is due to salary increases. There were two part-time positions – a substance abuse counsellor and a mental health clinician – added to the budget which were previously grant funded. The patrolmen’s budget is still unsettled and so is not reflected in the current budget and will come out of negotiated settlements. The rest of the budget is level funded. The sub-committee voted to support, 2-0-0.
The motion to approve was made and vote passed 12-0-0. *

Yes: Brad Bond, Diane Creedon, Doug Davison, David Tait, Frank Monaco, Jayashree Voruganti, John Iler, Mike Hardy, Phil Gallagher, Sonia Rollins, Steve Morin, Susan Harrigan

No: N/A

Abstentions: N/A

Fire Department Budget Overview

This budget is $8,604,833, seeing a 2.68% increase this year. Full time salaries are increasing 0.91%, not including the fire union contracts which will flow through negotiated settlements. Overtime has seen a major increase due to an increased hourly rate; however, the main driver of the budget’s increase has been the number of firemen out on long-term leave for injuries. The department currently has three vacancies and one anticipated vacancy. This has been in large part due to the retirements of firefighters. The sub-committee voted 2-0-0 to support.

The motion to approve was made and vote passed, 11-0-0.

Yes: Brad Bond, Diane Creedon, Doug Davison, David Tait, Frank Monaco, Jayashree Voruganti, John Iler, Mike Hardy, Sonia Rollins, Steve Morin, Susan Harrigan

No: N/A

Abstentions: N/A

*Phil Gallagher dropped off call; no votes were made moving forward.

Emergency Management Budget Overview

This budget is level funded at $23,600. The sub-committee voted 2-0-0 to support.

The motion to approve was made and passed, 11-0-0. *

Yes: Brad Bond, Diane Creedon, Doug Davison, David Tait, Frank Monaco, Jayashree Voruganti, John Iler, Mike Hardy, Sonia Rollins, Steve Morin, Susan Harrigan

No: N/A

Abstentions: N/A

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Treasurer Collector Budget Overview

This budget is level funded at $718,791. There has been a lot of turnover in this department and some room was left in their budget for this possibility in May/June; however, if it exceeds expectations, then the department may have to request additional funds from the Ways and Means Reserve. There is some question as to the impact of the Coronavirus on the collection of taxes; it is largely to early to say.

The motion to approve was made and passed, 11-0-0.
Yes: Brad Bond, Diane Creedon, Doug Davison, David Tait, Frank Monaco, Jayashree Voruganti, John Iler, Mike Hardy, Sonia Rollins, Steve Morin, Susan Harrigan
No: N/A
Abstentions: N/A

Central Administration Budget Overview

Town Health Insurance
This budget is at $4,472,730. They arrived at their budget by adding 5.5% to the previous year’s claims, plus administrative fees. This budget also includes medicare costs and a diabetes program. The town maintains a healthy trust fund balance for the town insurance.

The motion to approve was made and passed, 11-0-0.
Yes: Brad Bond, Diane Creedon, Doug Davison, David Tait, Frank Monaco, Jayashree Voruganti, John Iler, Mike Hardy, Sonia Rollins, Steve Morin, Susan Harrigan
No: N/A
Abstentions: N/A

OPEB Budget

This budget is $779,957, a planned 9.3% increase. Although, the town is unsure of what its receivables will be due to the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic, the recommendation was to continue forward with the scheduled increase, rather than contend with so many unknown figures. The money is in a discretionary fund, so it does
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Meeting Minutes

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not need to be spent. If, by September Town Meeting, the data suggests that monies should be put elsewhere, then there will be opportunities at that time to do so at that time.

The motion to approve was made and passed, 11-0-0.

**Yes:** Brad Bond, Diane Creedon, Doug Davison, David Tait, Frank Monaco, Jayashree Voruganti, John Iler, Mike Hardy, Sonia Rollins, Steve Morin, Susan Harrigan
**No:** N/A
**Abstentions:** N/A

**Debt Principal and Interest Budget**

This budget is $7,004,377, a 1.77% increase for principal and interest payments. Anything that the town has already bonded will be serviced; anything new maybe put on bonds, depending on the state of the market. All of our payment schedules have been left alone. This is well within guidelines of the operating budget.

The motion to approve was made and passed, 11-0-0.

**Yes:** Brad Bond, Diane Creedon, Doug Davison, David Tait, Frank Monaco, Jayashree Voruganti, John Iler, Mike Hardy, Sonia Rollins, Steve Morin, Susan Harrigan
**No:** N/A
**Abstentions:** N/A

**Negotiated Settlements Budget**

The negotiated settlements budget is $500,000. The town has two major contracts open, plus the Administrative and Professional contract.

The motion to approve was made and passed, 11-0-0.

**Yes:** Brad Bond, Diane Creedon, Doug Davison, David Tait, Frank Monaco, Jayashree Voruganti, John Iler, Mike Hardy, Sonia Rollins, Steve Morin, Susan Harrigan
**No:** N/A
**Abstentions:** N/A
Middlesex Retirement Budget

This is awarded to the town by the county, which is on a payment schedule similar to the town’s OPEB schedule, for ongoing liability. The amount this year, $10,675,811, is seeing an increase at 6.89%.

The motion to approve was made and passed, 11-0-0.

Yes: Brad Bond, Diane Creedon, Doug Davison, David Tait, Frank Monaco, Jayashree Voruganti, John Iler, Mike Hardy, Sonia Rollins, Steve Morin, Susan Harrigan

No: N/A

Abstentions: N/A

Pension Reimbursement Budget

This is a dual pension issue, for $1,256.

The motion to approve was made and passed, 11-0-0.

Yes: Brad Bond, Diane Creedon, Doug Davison, David Tait, Frank Monaco, Jayashree Voruganti, John Iler, Mike Hardy, Sonia Rollins, Steve Morin, Susan Harrigan

No: N/A

Abstentions: N/A

Before adjourning, Mike Hardy requested a list of grant-funded positions as they often become salaried positions once the grants end.

Adjourned.

Documents Reviewed:
Meeting Minutes

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• FY 2021 Budget