

LEBANON BUDGET COMMITTEE

Minutes, February 8, 2023

Lebanon Town Hall

- Meeting open – 6:00 pm
- Present: Elaine Hartford, Theresa Hartford, Chris Gilpatrick Jr, Chris Gilpatrick Sr, Jeri Basko, Laura Bragg. Also present were Selectmen Paul Philbrick, Michael Walsworth, and Shelli Boucher.
- Pledge of Allegiance led by Jeri Basko
- Minutes of February 1st were not available.
- Paul Philbrick was asked if all employees get the COLA? The Union employees do as it is in the contract, and the other employees usually get it also.
- Elaine Hartford asked how many Lawsuits the town has against them, Paul Philbrick says between 1 and 4.
- Codes and Land Use Budget (Highlights)
 - Wages were discussed. CEO wages are tentatively \$55,120.00 for 40 hours, and Land Use wages \$50,960.00 for 40 hours. The CEO will be covering all marijuana inspections and will having more office hours. Insurance for both is \$48,953,00
 - Chris Gilpatrick Sr. and Jr. both said the CEO does a great job. He has done a lot of inspections for them so they both said they will abstain from voting on his budget. Chris Sr. is also on the Appeals Board which is also covered by this budget. Laura Bragg is on Planning Board so she will abstain also.
 - Consulting was discussed, that is for a Forestry Plan for the Town.
 - CEO/Land Use Budget Total- \$126,815.00 (tentatively until union negotiations are finished)
- General Government Budget (Highlights)
 - Regular wages- \$259,809.00 – 4 fulltime employees and 1 part-time
 - Selectmen wages- \$35,000.00 - Motion by Chris Gilpatrick Sr, 2nded by Chris Gilpatrick Jr to pay the Selectmen \$14.00 per hour, all were in favor 6-0

- Town Administrator – The Selectmen have decided to put that on hold for a couple of years.
- Insurance- No figures are available. Discussion about separating Insurance into each budget to get a true picture of what each budget costs, or putting Insurance in a budget by itself.
- Building Repairs/Maintenance – change to LED lights in office, bathroom repairs, window, etc.
- Assessing Agent – Last year in contract then just maintenance.
- Audit – Additional \$20,000.00 to complete extra work that they need to complete audits.
- Elections Budget (Highlights)
 - The Selectmen have budgeted for 4 Elections.

There was a discussion on what can be done to members who don't show up for multiple meetings. There were by-laws that were written in 2016 but were never signed??? The Budget Committee Ordinance was passed in May 10, 2016, but isn't clear on this. Maybe we should add to the ordinance to make it clear?

Next Week will be the Highway Budget and the Road Commissioner will be present to discuss his Budget only.

Motion to adjourn at 8pm by Chris Gilpatrick Sr 2nded by Chris Gilpatrick Jr and all were in favor 6-0