

Lebanon Budget Committee

Meeting Minutes

12 - 2-15

Members Present - Jeri Basko, Becky Batchelder, Laura Bragg, Judy Churchard, Corinna Cole, Chris Gilpatrick, Chip Harlow, Nancy Neubert, Skip Wood

Selectmen Present - Chairperson Thompson, Royce Heath

Department Heads - Georgianna Allen, Mike Beaulieu

Meeting was called to order by Chairperson Harlow at 6:32 pm. The minutes from 11-18-15 were approved as corrected with a unanimous 8 - 0 vote.

Old Business

The Committee received paperwork from the Treasurer answering questions from last meeting. The first question was in regards to payroll tax going in and out on the expense detail reports, Jeanette provided documents showing where the money went and why.

The second question regarding the \$1 dog fee that stays with the town was not answered clearly. The Committee gave more details as to the information they were looking for and Selectman Thompson will ask the Treasurer for more information.

Recreation Department

Georgie Allen presented her budget. The budget is the same as last year. The Selectboard may move to reimbursing this department head as others are in town. For right now she will still be receiving her usual stipend.

Trunk or Treat - Georgie said they had over 500 children at this event this year. There were some questions about the Rec. dept. buying candy for this event. Georgie said that she bought just under \$100.00 in candy in case any of the cars ran out. She has done this for the past few years. Other events sponsored by this department are the Fall Craft Fair and the Easter Egg Hunt.

Total Budget: \$3,142.

Insurance

Selectman Thompson said that they won't have any hard figures until May. The Workman's Comp line appears to be over budget already by over \$14,000. Health insurance covers the 4 office employees. The amount in this line may increase due to a possible change in some dept. heads going to full-time. More info on this later. Right now the town pays 70% of the employees' health insurance. MMA is the town's health insurance provider.

There was much discussion on the insurance company the town is using - Norton Insurance. In the past this company has dropped its rates for the town only after finding out the amount that another insurance company had estimated for the town. It is difficult to get exact amounts from this company and their customer service is not very good. There were some questions about replacement costs on town equipment such as the backhoe. The Committee also

questioned what town employees were bonded (besides the office staff). The Committee would like to meet with Mike Lonnegan from Norton Insurance to get some answers to these questions. This budget is up **\$2067**. due to anticipated increases in Liability insurance and Maine Retirement Employer Contribution. **Total Budget: \$189,253.**

Code Enforcement Office

Mike Beaulieu presented his budget. His budget proposes that he go from part-time to full-time (29 hours/week to 35 hours/week, \$20.50/hour). Mike said that his revenues of \$37,000. would offset his increase but he was reading the wrong report. Selectman Thompson said that he would be eligible for benefits (health insurance and sick pay). Currently the CEO has 81 active files, has numbered 10 houses, has 5 active violations (2 legal) and has closed 28 occupancies. This department is also proposing to add a Deputy CEO position to fill in for Mike when he has mandatory testing for licensing. Mike stated that he is currently going through Health Officer training with the state and he needs to obtain his Plumbing inspector licensing. He said that he did not need any training or licensing in Building Codes, only to register with the state. He gets paid for his travel (\$.52/mile). Mike says he is working on weekends right now even though he doesn't get paid. There was some discussion about this as it might be a liability to the town in terms of employees working more hours than they get paid for. This budget is up **\$8,535**.

Total Budget: \$45,220.

Next meeting - January 6 - Transfer Station

Jeri Basko motioned to adjourn and Judy Churchard seconded. Meeting ended at 8:01 pm with a unanimous vote to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neubert, Secretary

Approved 1-6-16