

TOWN of OAKHAM

Board of Selectmen

REGULAR SESSION

May 11, 2011

Present:

Eliot G. Starbard, Vice Chairman

Dennis M. Bergin Jr., Clerk

Recording: Donna Couture

Eliot called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

Meeting with Finance Committee

Donna Sands and Lisa Hubacz presented a detailed report of FY2012 Recommended Budgets for all to review. Donna explained the numbers represents a level service budget, with a 2% increase for employees. Dennis requested each department/committee in attendance to respond to the recommendations.

- Chief McCaffrey is all set with the Ambulance and Fire recommendations.
- Peter Joyce of the Board of Assessors is fine with recommendations
- Board of Selectmen requested there be no increase with their stipend.
- Lucy Tessnau explained the Council on Aging and Conservation recommendations are fine
- Kevin Currier requested a separate line item for his part-time wages, to clarify the difference in full and part-time wages. He also requested to increase wages for his full timers by 5%, as it has been three years since an increase. Eliot and Dennis agreed they would not be in favor of giving a different percentage to one group of employees. Kevin also explained it is possible to lease a light duty dump truck for two years, which would be in line with the Finance spending recommendation of \$25,000 this year.
- Ray Duffy of the Recreation committee has no concerns with the recommendations.
- Susan Turnbull and Sharon LoRicco expressed no concerns with the Library recommendations.
- Donna Couture is all set with the town accountant recommendations. School Roof debt payment was discussed, Donna will follow up with Treasurer, Edna Holloway to determine final numbers and inform Donna Sands.
- Chris Madarosian is all set with both town clerk and election recommendations.
- Police Chief Gehring would like the recommendations to change to his requested budget.

At 8:25 Paul McNeil and Jon Boucher joined the meeting, and opened their Finance Committee Meeting

- Discussion on a part-time Police Chief budget versus a full-time Chief resumed. Chief Gehring explained more coverage is being accomplished with the current working schedule.

Kevin requested Finance change their recommend numbers to the requested budget. Dennis urged the same as the costs for a full-time chief are not realistic.

- After some debate, Paul McNeil made a motion for the recommendation to change. Their final vote was 2 for 2 against, making the motion fail.

Open Meeting Law Training

Chris Madarosian reminded all present of the June 1, 2011 training session that will be held at the Worcester Library. Eliot and Dennis expressed the board desire for at least one person from each board/committee to attend this important training.

Ball Roll

Library director, Sharon LoRicco thanked all departments that supported the very successful Ball Roll. After all costs are paid, she anticipates the revenue will be around \$3,800.

Annual Town Meeting Warrant

After review of each warrant articles, a final draft of the warrant was prepared, signed by the Board of Selectmen and handed to constable, Lucy Tessnau for posting.

Motion to Adjourn

Eliot made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:57p.m. Dennis seconded, voted all in favor.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the board of selectmen will be held on May 19, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.