

Town of Eliot
Budget Committee
March 7, 2019

Budget Committee Members: Donna Murphy (Chair), Jim Tessier (Vice-Chair), Dennis Lentz (Secretary), Janie Wang, Brad Hughes, and Ed Strong. Noah Lemire excused due to work.

Call to Order:

- Meeting was called to order @ 6:00 pm by the Chair (video streaming was used).

Public Comment:

- No members of the public present. Land Use Secretary was present.

Approval of Minutes

- No minutes were reviewed.

2019/2020 budget vote on recommendations for Administration, Public Works, Fixed Assessments, and Revenues.

- The Budget Committee reviewed the outstanding questions regarding salaries for positions that exceed the wage scale (Administrative Secretary/GA, Assessor, Public Works Director, Planner) and contract positions (Town Manager and Police Chief). The Town Manager has budgeted 1.3% increases for the first four and 2.8% increase for the last two.
- Brad shared information he received from Joel Moulton, Public Works director, regarding the 25% salary assessment to the sewer for the Public Works Director, the Public Works secretary, and the Town Manager. Jim indicated that his calculations showed the percentage to be about 8%. It was questioned if the completion of the pumps would reduce the amount of time that Joel spends on sewer. The Budget Committee members agreed that the goal was to be fair to the sewer users. Brad stated that in his conversation with Joel, Joel indicated that the 25% was correct.
- The Land Use Secretary requested to speak about her position and the request to increase it to full-time hours. She indicated that she felt the Town Manager did not present it properly and she wanted to be available for questions and comments. There was information presented of duties that did not fall in line with the reason the position was initially requested. Information presented appeared the position was performing duties that were not part of that department. Jim questioned who she reported to for her supervisor? The Land Use Secretary was unable to provide an answer. The Budget Committee members thanked her for attending the meeting and sharing information. It

was recognized that this placed her in a difficult position of feeling the need to attend the meeting and defend her position.

- Budget Committee members voted on Public Works, Administration, Fixed Assessments, and Revenues.

Motion by Jim Tessier, second by Ed Strong to approve Public Works for \$1,023,252. Vote 6-0 to approve.

Motion by Janie Wang, second by Ed Strong to approve Administration for \$1,188,957. Vote 6-0 to approve.

Motion by Brad Hughes, second by Ed Strong to approve Fixed Assessments for \$174,665, adjusted by \$34,930 for the Public Works for expense applicable for sewer expense. Vote 6-0 to approve.

Motion by Brad Hughes, second by Jim Tessier to approve Revenues for \$3,110,951 which includes \$5,530 sewer administration revenue to offset the expense and \$5,000 from the police cruiser reserve. Vote 6-0 to approve.

Budget Committee member reports and comments

- Reviewed items for the March 12, 2019 agenda. Citizen's Option Meeting, charge to sewer users for percentage of Town Manager, Public Works Director, and Public Works Secretary salaries, wage scale. Jim stated that we need to discuss what we want to present at the Citizen's Option meeting and all the work the Budget Committee did to get to the present numbers.

Adjournment

Motion by Ed Strong, second by Brad Hughes to adjourn. Vote 6-0

Next meeting is March 12, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Murphy, Chair

Date Approved: April 9, 2019

Dennis F. Lentz, Secretary