

Minutes
Special Bar Harbor Town Council
January 28, 2021

I. **CALL TO ORDER** – 5:00 pm – In attendance were Councilors Jeff Dobbs, Matt Hochman, Gary Friedmann, Val Peacock, Joe Minutolo, Jill Goldthwait, Erin Cough; and Town Manager Cornell Knight and Finance Director Stan Harmon. Val Peacock left the meeting at 6:13pm during discussion of the School CIP.

II. **SCHOOL & PROTECTIONS BUDGET COST CENTER:**

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A. **School Department** (Tab #10)

Principal Barb Neilly, Business Manager Nancy Thurlow and School Committee Chair Kristi Losquadro spoke to the proposed budget and answered questions regarding the items listed below.

Revenues	School 1
Expenses	School 2-9

Topics of discussion: state subsidy, Special Ed 1:1s, Blue Cross/Blue Shield estimates, periodicals/books, teaching supplies, athletics stipends, summer school, 5 additional days for librarian and technology staff, salary negotiations, the transportation/operations coordinator new position, bus contracts, green options for buses, new staff positions, breakfast and lunch for all students, COVID impact including hybrid model and asymptomatic testing.

Capital Improvement Program (CIP Tab #6)

School	CIP Expenses 7
Narrative	CIP Narrative 22-23

Questions about how CIP requests for boiler and wall repairs have been spent. Ms. Neilly addressed concerns and will provide a breakdown of projects funded from CIP and projects still pending.

No action taken.

B. **Police Department**

Police Chief Jim Willis addressed Council comments and questions regarding the items listed below.

Revenues & Fees Schedule	
Revenues	Revenues 2
Fees Schedule	Rev: Fees 8

Topics of discussion: mutual aid with Mount Desert and public safety detail.

Expenses

- Police Department Expenses 5-6
- Topics of discussion: wages – part time seasonal
- Dispatch Expenses 6
- Topics of discussion: dispatch positions, overtime wages
- Street Lights Expenses 7
- Mr. Knight stated this item 2 years ago was \$62,000. LEDs have reduced expenses.

Capital Improvement Program

- Police Department CIP Expenses 3
- Topics of discussion: status of building, replacement of cruisers and green options.
- Dispatch CIP Expenses 3
- Narrative CIP Narrative 15-17
- List of Equipment CIP 28-29

No action taken.

C. **Parking Meter Fund** (Tab #5)

Chief Willis, Mr. Knight and Mr. Harmon addressed questions and comments.

- Revenues PM-2
- Expenses
 - Operations PM-3,4
 - Capital PM-3-4
- Topics of discussion: payment for services to IPS and Park Mobile out of revenues, violations.

No action taken.

D. **Fire Department**

Fire Chief Matt Bartlett and Mr. Harmon addressed Council comments and questions regarding the items listed below.

- Revenues & Fees Schedule
 - Revenues Revenues 2
 - Fees Schedule (Ambulance) Rev: Fees 4
- Expenses
 - Fire Department Expenses 5
 - Public Fire Protections Expenses 5
 - Public Safety Building Expenses 7
- Topics of discussion: mandatory write-offs related to Medicare/MaineCare, 3 open positions for which salaries are included, payment of utilities only for use of Town Hill building, hydrant/water rates governed by PUC.

Capital Improvement Program
 Ambulance CIP Expenses 2
 Fire Department CIP Expenses 3
 Public Safety Building CIP Expenses 3
 Narrative CIP Narrative 14-15, 17
 List of Equipment CIP 28, 30
 Topics of discussion: a new ambulance that was scheduled for last year will be this year; green options for it.

No action taken.

E. Operating Transfers Out from General Fund

To CIP Expenses 11
 To School Expenses 11
 Mr. Harmon stated CIP will be reduced by the \$10,000 change Council made to Eden Path Lighting. No action taken.

III. Review of Proposed Budget – Possible changes to proposed budget. Budget changes made by Council:

1. Reduce Northern Light Coop Agency to \$5,000 (-\$3,335)
2. Reduce Cruise Ship Industry Relations from \$5,000 to \$2,000
3. Add to Village Holidays Decoration \$3,000
4. Cut Eden Path Lighting CIP by \$10,000
5. Increase Cruise Ship Fees by 3% COLA to 4.68 per pass. (No tax impact)

Results in a total reduction of \$10,335. Estimated new tax mil rate is 2.1%.

IV. FY22 Budget – Possible motion to:

- A. Tentatively adopt the budget as proposed/amended
- B. Submit FY22 Budget to the Warrant Committee as proposed/amended
- C. Schedule a public hearing Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to tentatively adopt the budget as amended, submit the FY22 budget to the Warrant Committee as amended, and schedule a public hearing for Tuesday, February 16, 2021.

Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs Y
Hochman Y
Friedmann Y
Minutolo Y
Goldthwait Y
Cough Y
Motion passed 6-0.

V. **REMINDER – Special Meeting** – *March 23, 2021 with the Warrant Committee.*
Town Clerk Sharon Linscott stated the start time will most likely be 7:00pm.

VI. **ADJOURNMENT** – Mr. Hochman, with second by Ms. Cough, moved to adjourn at 7:01pm. Roll Call Vote:

Dobbs Y

Hochman Y

Friedmann Y

Minutolo Y

Goldthwait Y

Cough Y

Motion passed 6-0.

Sharon M. Linscott, Town Clerk