

Gilford Budget Committee Minutes
November 8, 2012
6:30 p.m.
Town of Gilford

Members Present: Phyllis Corrigan, Dale Dormody, Fred Butler, Sue Greene, Richard Grenier, Dave Horvath, Pat Labonte, Kevin Leandro, Rae Mello-Andrews, Kevin Roy and Allen Voivod

Members Absent: Gus Benavides

Phyllis Corrigan opened the meeting at 6:30pm and the Budget Committee recited the pledge of allegiance. Phyllis Corrigan thanked everyone for attending and turned the meeting over to John Goodhue, Chairman of the Conservation Commission to present their budget.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION:

Total operating budget of \$21,901.00 is down 2.4% (\$550). John Goodhue reviewed the budget and explained the reason the current expenditures are low is because a lot of items come due at the end of the year so the actual expenditures for 2012 are low at this time. John Goodhue introduced Peter Morrissette, Chairman of invasive species to discuss the invasive species management line item.

Peter Morrissette stated that their budget is actually \$40,000.00 of which the town gives \$18,000.00 and the remaining is raised by property owners, Fay's boat yard etc. Peter Morrissette discussed the milfoil project that is ongoing.

Dale Dormody moved to approve the Conservation Commission budget in the amount of \$21,901.00 as presented. Kevin Roy seconded.

Motion to approve the Conservation Commission budget passed with all in favor.

Phyllis Corrigan thanked John Goodhue and Peter Morrissette and turned the meeting over to Dale Dormody to review the Police Department budget.

POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET:

Dale Dormody reviewed the Police Department proposed budget of \$2,376,922.00 which is up 12.9% (\$128,734) due to full time wages, overtime, retirement costs and health insurance. The Sub-committee did not review two items, \$158,000.00 for radio replacement warrant article and \$35,000.00 for the first year payment on the radio replacement lease.

Non Discretionary is up 6.5% (\$131,804) they have 15 full time union, 8 full time non union and 2 part time non union positions.

- Full time wages are up 2.3% most positions covered by union.
- Merit wages up almost 70% over previous year when employee are at max they receive lump sum payment.
- Over time is up 11.3% - question was asked at what point do you consider hiring an additional person.
- Retirement had a significant increase.

Discretionary spending is up 2.6% (\$4,230)

- Upgrade for the IMC operating system used to manage service calls.
- Software license support had funds transferred from general equipment

into this account.

- Professional Development up by 10% (\$1,000) as employees gain more tenure training courses are more advanced and more expensive. Line item also includes ammo.

Other Expenses are down and include purchase of replacement vehicles and continued lease of motorcycle.

Dale Dormody stated the Sub-committee recommends the budget of \$2,376,922.00 (not including the warrant article).

Discussion ensued regarding what is intended to be purchased this year with surplus funds, if some items are not the BOS will come to the Budget Committee prior to the hearings to let them know. Scott Dunn stated that he anticipates having a revised budget with actual health insurance costs.

Discussion ensued regarding voting separately on the warrant articles. Scott Dunn stated they will soon have the draft warrant articles for the Budget Committee.

Dale Dormody moved to approve the recommended Police budget in the amount of \$2,376,922.00. Kevin Leandro seconded.

Discussion ensued regarding \$600.00 for copy machine maintenance, the number of officers at the PD and how they are doing. Allen Voivod asked what the breaking point was for over time before they consider hiring an additional officer. Chief Keenan stated they are actively looking at that, with court vacations etc you will never get rid of that line item.

Discussion ensued regarding the Police Union contract ending in 2013. Chief Keenan stated they will start negotiations next summer.

Phyllis Corrigan asked if there were any further questions and called for a vote on the motion to approve the PD budget in the amount of \$2,376,922.00.

Motion passed with all in favor.

Discussion ensued regarding the Hum V and the County taking the third one that was available.

Phyllis Corrigan turned the meeting over to Kevin Roy to review the Fire Department budget.

FIRE-RESCUE BUDGET:

Kevin Roy reviewed Fire Rescue proposed budget of \$1,665,636.00 up 4.64% (\$81,132). This figure does not include CRF of \$50,000.00 for Fire Equipment and \$10,000.00 for Fire Water Supply also Forestry and Emergency Management are separate budgets.

Wages and Benefits, \$1,472,207, are down 1.5% (\$22,490) due to lower wages for new employees.

Operating budget, \$186,571, is down 1.2% (\$2,329).

- Software License support up 48.6% includes copier payment.
- Professional development, down slightly 1.2% covers mandatory certification such as Fire Fighter 1, EMT-B.
- Protective clothing down 7.9% getting about 7 years out of clothing instead of 5.
 - Vehicle Maint. Up 5.9% due to aging fleet hoping to absorb cost of Engine 4 in 2012.
 - Special Equipment Jaws of Life needs replacement hoping to absorb cost

in 2012.

- General Maint. Includes annual service contracts, in an effort to keep costs down they coordinate ladder testing with other towns.

Kevin Roy moved to approve the Fire Rescue budget in the amount of \$1,665,636.00, Pat Labonte Seconded.

Discussion ensued regarding the fire pond on Alvah Wilson Rd. Chief Carrier stated that Lt. Madden is handling that issue however there are other issues that are more pressing at this time.

Discussion ensued regarding the last payment of the SCBA lease which ended in 2012. Chief Keenan stated they expect to get 10 years out of the SCBA equipment.

Phyllis Corrigan asked if there were any further questions and called for a vote to approve the Fire Rescue Budget in the amount of \$1,665,636.00.

Motion passed with all in favor.

Richard Grenier congratulated Captain Michael Balcom, who was awarded New Hampshire's Fire Officer of the year.

FORESTRY BUDGET:

Kevin Roy continued with the Forestry budget in amount of \$5,075.00 down 8.8% (\$490).

Wages and Benefits are up 1.8% (\$60) due to the retirement line.

Operating budget is down 23.9%, professional development is down 50%, Dept. Equipment is down 33.3% and vehicle maint. Is up 20% due to age of vehicles they have a 1999 Ford F550 and a 1967 Jeep.

Kevin Roy moved to approve the Forestry Budget in the amount of \$5,075.00, Fred Butler seconded.

Phyllis Corrigan asked if there were any further questions and called for a vote.

Motion to approve the Forestry budget passed with all in favor.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT BUDGET:

Kevin Roy continued with the Emergency Management budget in the amount of \$3,545.00 which is down 5.1% (\$191).

Wages and Benefits are up slightly due to retirement costs.

Operating Budget is down 33.3%.

Kevin Leandro moved to approve the Emergency Management budget for \$3,545.00, Pat Labonte seconded.

Discussion ensued regarding who gets the stipend for this account, it is split 2/3 and 1/3 between the Chief and Deputy Chief.

Phyllis Corrigan asked if there were any further questions and called for a vote to approve the Emergency Management Budget of \$3,545.00.

Motion passed with all in favor.

FIRE PROTECTION BUDGET:

Kevin Roy continued with the Fire Protection budget of \$45,000.00, which is level funded. This is the amount paid to Laconia for Gilford's 56 pressurized hydrants.

Sub-committee recommends approval as there is nothing to compare it to, not sure if there is anything that can be done with this budget.

Discussion ensued regarding the pressurized hydrants not being metered. Laconia Water Works owns the hydrants they determine where new hydrants are placed and what criteria is used. Chief Carrier stated we are getting a good deal, knowing rates in

other communities. The Fire Dept. also fills their tanks at the pressurized hydrants. Phyllis Corrigan asked if there were any further questions and asked if there was a motion on the floor. Kevin Roy moved to approve the Fire Protection budget and Phyllis Corrigan seconded and called for a vote to approve the Fire Protection Budget in the amount of \$45,000.00.

10 Yes

1 No

Motion passed by a vote of 10 to 1.

Phyllis Corrigan stated that since Gus Benavides was unable to attend tonight's meeting the coffee issue will be deferred to next week.

Phyllis Corrigan stated that she spoke with Scott Isabelle and the School Budget has been approved and will be available Tuesday November 20th and asked Budget Committee members to decide which Sub-committee they wanted to be on.

Dave Horvath stated he would like to be on the Middle School and High School.

Kevin Roy stated he would like to also be on the Middle School and High School.

Fred Butler stated he would like to be on the Elementary School and Technology.

Allen Voivod stated he would like to be on Technology and Administration.

Kevin Leandro stated he would like to be on Administration.

Dale Dormody stated he would like to be on Special Education and Technology.

Phyllis Corrigan stated she would like to be on the Elementary School and Special Education.

Sue Greene stated she would like to be on Special Education and High School.

Pat Labonte stated he would like to be on the Elementary School and Administration.

Richard Grenier stated he would like to be on the Middle School and Administration.

Phyllis Corrigan moved on to the approval of the previous meetings minutes. Dave Horvath moved to approve the minutes, Phyllis Corrigan seconded. Motion to approve the minutes passed with all in favor.

Discussion ensued regarding the tax rate going down to \$18.30.

Phyllis Corrigan stated that Dale Dormody will be presiding over next week's meeting as she will be unable to attend.

Discussion ensued regarding the timing of the warrant articles and when the public hearings will be held it was determined that the School Public Hearing will be held on Tuesday January 8th and the Town Public Hearing will be held on Thursday January 10th.

Discussion ensued regarding the Town Clerk/Tax Collectors salary. Scott Dunn stated that they did an analysis and will send that information out to the Budget Committee.

Kevin Roy moved to adjourn the meeting, Richard Grenier seconded.

Motion to adjourn passed with all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mia Gagliardi

Recording Secretary