

## **BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**January 11, 2024**

**Lincoln Town Hall, Lincoln, NH**

**(video on YouTube) (approved)**

**ATTENDING:** Chairman Mike Simons, Vice-Chairman Herb Gardner, Selectperson Tammy Ham, Wayne Baltzer, Paul Beaudin, Tracey Brumlik, Ray D'Amante, Dennis Ducharme, Brent Hansma, Cindy Lloyd, Al Poulin, Jim Spanos, Selectperson Tammy Ham, Carina Park, Chief Morris, Deputy Chief McKinley, Becky Farnsworth

**Absent:** Brian Gallagher (excused)

**Audience:** Carol Riley

**Call to order: 5:31**

### **REVIEW OF BUDGETS:**

**POLICE:** Police Chief Morris states that the 5.31% increase is due 4% for CBA and 1.31% for the new SRO position. The department has been down 2-3 positions all year, but they now have 3 people signed up for the academy and they can take shifts in about 8 months. To totally cover some shifts officers came in an hour early or went home an hour later. Phones were raised by \$1000 since they were over by \$800 and use 6 different services. Dues, Training and Training Supplies remained flat.

A few items were increased under Contracted Services including Police Prosecution increasing by \$2,000 and a new 5-year contract with Certified Computer that increased. Included in the plan is a replacement for all 30 computers. They added Civic Plus, which is the company that hosts and takes care of the website. We now have a new line for Traffic Solutions, which are the speed signs on Pollard Road and the message boards, because the trial expired. Deputy Chief McKinley reports that on a holiday weekend 7,000-10,000 cars travel west on Pollard Road. Paul questions if another speed sign is needed for the cars going east. Once they are in the new building expect the cleaning service amount to increase.

Materials/Supplies, Fuel and Uniform Cleaning all remained the same. Radio Replacement went up slightly.

Carina states that the expenditure number is over by \$100,000. The reason being that certain items were not covered under the bid for the new police department building, such as: communications, carport, security, furniture, etc. A new tower, pad etc. is going to cost about \$250,000.00. Using the surplus from the 2023 budget and CIP, a new tower was purchased for \$100,000.00. We will be getting a grant, once the federal budget passes. Carina states that when all is said and done with the carport, tower, furniture etc. the new

building will come in at about \$7,200,000.00. We will still use the old tower too. Paul asks if there is an agreement with Loon about keeping the repeater on the mountain. Carina will look into that.

Chief Morris reports on the Offsetting Revenue. Forest Service should be \$3,000.00 not \$2,000.00. SRO Revenue is from the school and a grant from the government. Parking Tickets went down because there has been some question as to what is private property and what is a fire lane by the cistern. False Alarms/Fees decrease is related to not having all the codes in the new records management system. That will increase now that the new system is up and running. That number can be changed to \$2,500.00 for this year. Dispatch Revenue has increased to \$27,500.00 for the next 2 years. To dispatch for other towns besides Woodstock, we need a simulcast system.

#### **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

Chief Morris reports that everything under this budget has remained the same except for Hazard Mit Plan/Emergency Operations Plan that has been cut in half. They will be starting Emergency Training with a walk through of the schools on January 26<sup>th</sup>. Cindy states that percent change should say down 50%.

#### **SPECIAL WARRANT ARTICLES:**

##### **LIBRARY FRONT STEPS:**

Carol Riley states that the library needs new front steps. Jake Belanger's estimate decreased when he suggested using granite, not cement, which is cheaper. The salt won't eat away at the granite. There is still a question as to whether the pillars are needed for support of the roof. Paul suggests we also ask the company doing the police station for an estimate on the steps. Carina states that other estimates will be gathered. It was not put on the CIP because it is an immediate need and a safety issue.

**PD CRUISER:** New one asked for every year.

**HIGHWAY BLOCK GRANT:** Continues this year.

**TOWN BUILDINGS AUDIO/VIDEO/SURVEILLANCE:** Carina states that a new a new line will be put in for replace/repair cameras in the town building. Carina states that to improve the audio quality, small mics will be bought for the tables and the large mic will be moved back for the audience.

#### **CAPITAL RESERVE:**

Carina states the total is similar to what was put in last year. The Library Building money is for an expansion in the future. That Public Works Equipment is for a new backhoe. The

Property and Maintenance number includes money for the Police Department, Kanc Rec Area improvements and the Fire Department bathrooms.

Cindy asks if more money should be put in for Sewer System Rehab. Carina states that there is a balance in there now of \$1,800,000.00. The final project will have to be a bond.

Carina states that once the Police department is underway, they will do a space/needs assessment for how the old space can be used. Paul wonders if any part of the old PD could be rented out to bring in revenue, but Carina states that the town hall will need that space. She would like to see the file cabinets down there, due to how heavy they are. File cabinets are still used because digitizing our system takes people, time and money and some files have to be in hard copies.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Letter from the Ambulance Service, justifying their increases, will be discussed at the next meeting.

**MOTION: "To adjourn at 7:01."**

Motion: Paul

Second: Tammy

Motion carries unanimously

  
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Chairman Mike Simons

  
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Date:

