

Pownal Budget Committee

May 19, 2020 Public Proceeding Minutes Approved

Members Present:

Bo Chesney, John Green, Gennifer Giuliano, Matthew Roy, Brian Stornelli, Andy Wyatt

Guests:

Andy O'Brien and Jon Morris of the Select Board, Town Administrator Melissa Henes, Fire chief Jesse Peters, Rodney Richard and Paul Schumann of the CIP Committee

1. A quorum was established (all committee members logged in). The meeting was called to order by Chairman Green at 7:03 PM.
2. Mr. Wyatt provided draft minutes of the May 12, 2020 meeting. Chairman Green called out an error where the minutes referred to 'GPCOGs' instead of 'MMA'. Mr. Chesney moved to approve as amended. Mr. Roy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
3. The Public Comment period was skipped as no members of the public were in attendance.
4. Select Board input:
Chairman Green asked of the Select Board attendees whether there was any new information about Town Meeting (e.g. date, constraints on holding a large in-person gathering). Mr. Morris indicated that there is nothing new to report, but assured that "we will work it out".
5. Fire Chief Peters presented an updated FY 2021 Public Safety budget request. The only change from the budget request presented at the April 14 meeting was the EMS-Transport line (03-01-030-031), where that line was reduced by \$2540. That brings the Public Safety budget request from a \$4068 (3.17%) increase as of April 14, to a \$1528 (1.19%) increase.
6. Town Administrator Melissa Henes presented FY 2021 budget requests for several departments.
 - a. General Government (without compensation): \$117,853, an 8.57% increase over the \$108,550 for FY 2020.
 - b. Mallett Hall expenses: \$22,577, a 2.73% increase over the \$21,977 for FY 2020.
 - c. Human Services: \$11,350, a 15.23% increase over the \$9,850 for FY 2020. This is driven by an added \$1500 stipend for a health officer that is required by law.
 - d. Debt Service: \$342,465, a 2.29% decrease over the 347,914.18 for FY 2020.
 - e. Pownal Center Water Association: \$3200, a decrease of 22.89% over the \$4150 for FY 2020. Selectman O'Brien reported that one pump had been replaced this year. The other should provide service for another year.
7. Rodney Richard and Paul Schumann of the Capital Improvement Planning committee presented the proposed FY 2021 plan for capital projects funding. To minimize expenditures this fiscal year, the plan includes deferral of two projects and using bonding instead of capital reserve funds for one of them. Specifically:
 - i. Deferring the purchase of a 20-ton utility trailer for the Public Works department to the next fiscal year.
 - ii. Deferring the replacement of the multi-plate culvert on the Poland Range Road to the next fiscal year, and fund that via a bond, rather than capital reserve account funds.

* Bo Chesney * John Green * Gennifer Giuliano *
* Matthew Roy * Brian Stornelli * Andy Wyatt *

iii. For Public Safety, the refurbishment of engine 2 will proceed in FY 2021.

These changes will allow this year's appropriation into the capital reserve fund to be reduced from \$157,000 to \$1.

8. The next meeting is set for Wednesday May 27, 2020, 7:00 PM via zoom.com. Town Administrator Melissa Henes will be in attendance to present proposed budgets for Compensation. Mr. Wyatt will present a budget proposal for Solid Waste. Chairman Green will provide the agenda and a URL for the meeting.
9. Mr. Chesney made a motion for adjournment. Mr. Wyatt seconded. The motion passed with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Wyatt