

Pownal Budget Committee

June 9, 2020

Public Proceeding Minutes

Approved

Members Present:

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

Guests:

Town Administrator Melissa Henes

George Anderson, Andy O'Brien and Jon Morris of the Select Board

1. A quorum was established (all committee members logged in). The meeting was called to order by Chairman Green at 7:04 PM.
2. Mr. Wyatt provided draft minutes of the June 2, 2020 meeting. For item #6, Mr. Chesney suggested rewording to clarify the main driver for the overall 2021 budget decrease (minimal appropriation into the capital projects fund). Mr. Roy moved to approve as amended. Ms. Giuliano seconded. The motion passed with five in favor and one abstention.
3. The Public Comment period was skipped as no members of the public were in attendance.
4. Select Board input:

Selectman O'Brien informed the committee that at the previous night's Select Board meeting they had voted to conduct Town Meeting via secret ballot, allowing the voters to vote on each of the warrant articles. There will be 3 public hearings (June 22, June 29, July 13) to provide information and a forum for discussion. The voting will occur on July 20.
5. Town Administrator Henes presented the Public Works budget with the Health Insurance line to support two employees who select the family level coverage and two who select employee-only coverage. After some discussion, the committee voted to budget that amount for Public Works, since that represented the employees current selections.
6. Chairman Green initiated a discussion on stipends for municipal officers. Ms. Giuliano inquired about stipends given to those serving for Pownal vs. the stipends provided in other towns. Mr. Morris indicated that Pownal's stipend levels are 'similar'. After some discussion, the committee voted to not make changes to the stipends for this year.
7. Chairman Green led a process of discussion of and voting on the Town Meeting warrant articles for which the budget committee provides a recommendation:
 - a. Capital Projects: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Budget Committee recommend appropriation of \$1. Mr. Chesney seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - b. General Government: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Budget Committee recommend appropriation of \$339,100. Mr. Chesney seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - c. Human Services: Mr. Chesney moved that the Budget Committee recommend appropriation of \$11,350. Ms. Giuliano seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - d. Mallett Hall: Mr. Chesney moved that the Budget Committee recommend appropriation of \$22,961, unless resolution of a question about compensation reduces this amount to \$22,630. Ms. Giuliano seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - e. Public Works: Mr. Chesney moved that the Budget Committee recommend appropriation of \$726,252. Mr. Wyatt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

- f. Public Safety: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Budget Committee recommend appropriation of \$130,016. Mr. Chesney seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - g. Solid Waste and Recycling: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Budget Committee recommend appropriation of \$108,329. Ms. Giuliano seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - h. Cemeteries: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Budget Committee recommend appropriation of \$4,064. Mr. Roy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - i. Pownal Center Water Association: Mr. Wyatt moved that the Budget Committee recommend appropriation of \$3,200. Mr. Chesney seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - j. Debt Service: Mr. Chesney moved that the Budget Committee recommend appropriation of \$342,465. Ms. Giuliano seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - k. Since the town's Property Tax Assistance ordinance is still adequately funded, the Select Board will not be including an article for additional funding in this year's warrant. Therefore, the committee does not need to provide a recommendation
 - l. The committee opted to provide no recommendation for the [\$25,000] refurbishment of Fire Engine 2, which is to be funded by the Capital Projects reserve account.
8. The committee reviewed Chairman Green's draft of the Budget Committee report for inclusion in the Town's Annual Report.
 9. The next meeting is set for late winter 2021. Chairman Green will provide the date, agenda and a URL or meeting location at a later time.
 10. Mr. Chesney made a motion for adjournment. Mr. Stornelli seconded. The motion passed with all in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Wyatt