

Pownal Budget Committee

Mallett Hall

APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

March 5, 2019

7:00 PM

Members present: Chairman Wyatt, Kim Best, John Green, Andrew O'Brien and Brian Stornelli

Members absent: none

Meeting called to order at 7:01 pm. All five committee members were present and a quorum was established.

Minutes from previous meeting: The minutes of February 26, 2019 were approved unanimously, with one change that Selectman Chair Jon Morris wished that the Capitol Improvement Planning committee had known beforehand of the 1.9% reasonable starting point that our committee was working under.

Public comment: None

Selectmen comment: None

Presentation of proposed budgets: The following budget was presented and significant discussion details are noted:

Fire Chief Jesse Peters presented the proposed **Public Safety** budget. Chief Peters provided a 5 page detailed handout that documented 2018 actuals, 2019 year-to-date amounts and the 2020 proposal. The 2020 proposal results in a \$19,040 increase, or about 15.07% from the 2019 approved budget. The following comments are applicable:

030-030 Brunswick Dispatch Professional Service: The service has not met expectations and the Chief proposed that Pownal switch to the Cumberland County system. Cost increases to implement that change include, \$1,330 for yearly service, \$1,320 for computer software, \$770 one time cost for computer set up and \$11,600 one time cost to purchase base radio equipment.

030-031 Freeport has changed their ambulance dispatch policy when service is found to be not necessary after the initial call which results in a \$3,715 increase.

010-060, 061 and 063 Maine's minimum wage increase has resulted in a cumulative \$1,400 increase for the three firefighter pay accounts.

Chief Peters and the Committee agreed to change the following proposed sub account budgets: batteries, account 125-405, from \$700 to \$300; , road way safety, account 170-402, from \$300 to \$200; EMS protective gear, account 170-403, from \$5,750 to \$5,000; accountability ID tags, account 170-404, from \$100 to \$0; FIT testing, account 170-407, from \$0 to \$300 and hand tools/extinguishers, account 180-503, from \$535 to \$300. These changes result in a net reduction of ? \$4,272 ?.

Other Discussion: Chairman Wyatt gave us a heads up that the 2,020 proposed solid waste budget would include a tipping fee increase from \$70.50 to \$73.00/ton and for the first time a charge of \$35.00/ton for the recycling tipping.

Next meeting: Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 7:00 PM for the proposed Public Works (second view), Planning Board, Compensation, Solid Waste and Cemeteries budget presentations.

Meeting adjourned at 9:18 PM

Respectfully submitted,

John Green

Committee Secretary