

Pownal Budget Committee Minutes

Mallett Hall

April 6, 2016

7:00 PM

Members present: Chairman Andy Wyatt, Kim Best, John Green, Andy O'Brien

EXCUSED

Members absent: Carlene Harvey, Kathy Hogue

Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm. There were four members present and a quorum was established.

Minutes from previous meeting: Minor amendments were made to the minutes of March 30, 2016 and they were approved.

Public comment: None

Selectmen comment: No member(s) present

Presentation of proposed budgets:

Cemeteries: Andy W noted that he had spoken with Craig Vosmus and the committee was requesting \$2,000, the same amount as last year. Craig noted to Andy that several lots had been sold over the last year with total income realized of \$2,800.

Public Safety: Jesse Peters presented the Public Safety budget. Significant discussion included:

The 16/17 proposed budget is \$126,023 vice the 15/16 approved budget of \$112,818, a 11.7% increase. Most of the increase is from the thermal camera and fire station replacement furnace. There would be a 1.27% increase without these items.

The Budget Committee will consider recommending to the Selectmen that purchases of cameras be included in the Capitol Project budget due to their high cost (approaching the \$10,000 threshold) and regular replacement cycle.

Jesse is considering applying for a Stephen King grant for a second replacement camera.

The proposed furnace would be a 100K BTU/Hr model vice the current 55K BTU/Hr unit, to more quickly heat the building.

Public Works: Calvin Beaumier presented the proposed Public Works budget.

Significant discussion included:

The 16/17 proposed budget is \$623,449 vice the 15/16 approved budget of \$597,595, a 4.3% increase.

A major component of the increase is \$13,000 to replace six road grader tires. The equipment was apparently delivered three years ago with gravel pit tires that did not wear well on local road surfaces.

The mild winter resulted in a surplus of sand, such that only 50% will be purchased for the sand/salt mix for the 16/17 winter season.

Purchase of liquid de-icer will be increased to match recommended mix ratios with salt. The 15/16 budgeted cost was \$7,500 while the 16/17 proposed budget is \$12,000.

The unexpected replacement cost of the Merrill Road culvert was \$68,000, which was not accounted for in the 15/16 budget.

Calvin is recommending that the paving rehabilitation account be increased by approximately \$40,000 and the crack sealing account be decreased by a similar amount of money.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at 7:00 PM to present budgets for the Planning Board, Solid Waste, Compensation and Capitol Project operations.

Meeting adjourned at 8:56

Respectfully submitted,

John Green