

Pownal Budget Committee
April 11, 2017
MINUTES

Present: Chairman Andy Wyatt, John Green (Acting Secretary), Kathy Hogue, Andy O'Brien,
Excused: Kim Best, Carlene Harvey
Absent: Michael Morin

1. Quorum established and meeting commenced at 7:02 pm.
2. Minutes of March 28, 2017 meeting approved with additional information.
3. Public Comment: None
4. Selectmen's Input: None
5. Presentation of proposed budgets
 - a. Public Safety – Jesse Peters presented the proposed Public Safety budget with the following items of interest noted:
 - i. The minimum wage law increase would result in a \$2,200 budget impact. All firefighters would receive a \$1 per hour wage increase, however no separate cost of living adjustment is anticipated.
 - ii. The EMS transport charge provided by Freeport would increase to \$65 per round trip, from the current \$60.
 - Pownal SU iii. The North Pownal communication repeater is unreliable and a battery back-up is proposed that would have a \$2,719 budget impact.
 - iv. Chief Peters received the congratulations of the committee on last year's successful Stephen and Tabitha King grant to purchase an infrared camera for the fire department.
 - b. Public Works – Calvin Beaumier presented the proposed Public Works budget with the following items of interest noted:
 - i. The door at the sand and salt shed needs maintenance/repair which would result in a \$6,000 budget impact.
 - ii. An additional \$7,000 is requested to replenish the sand pile for winter road maintenance. Calvin remarked the previous sand tended to lack good grittiness for optimin effectiveness.
 - iii. The compensation portion of the public works account has an approximate \$40,000 budget impact for a proposed full time Pownal road commissioner.
 - iv. An additional \$3,500 is requested to paint traffic lines on paved Pownal roads.

- c. Cemeteries – Andy Wyatt reported on the proposed Cemetery budget with the following items of interest noted:
 - i. Cemetery maintenance was originally funded by an investment account. Low interest rates have not generated sufficient returns from the account and the recent practice of appropriating \$2,000 from taxation has not met overall expenses.
 - ii. The committee needs additional information from Town Administrator Scott Seaver and further discussion was tabled by a 4 – 0 vote.

6. The next meeting will be on Tuesday April 18, 2017 at 7:00 pm at Mallett Hall where the Solid Waste, Compensation and Capitol Projects budgets will be presented.

7. Meeting adjourned at 8:49 pm

Respectfully submitted,
John Green
Acting Secretary