

State of Rhode Island

County of Washington

In Hopkinton on the twenty fifth day of February 2019 A.D. the Town Council held a Budget Workshop that was called to order by Town Council President Frank Landolfi at 6:30 P.M. in the Town Hall Meeting Room, 1 Town House Road, Hopkinton, RI 02833.

PRESENT: Frank Landolfi, Scott Bill Hirst, Barbara Capalbo, Sylvia Thompson, Sharon Davis; Town Manager William McGarry; Town Clerk Elizabeth Cook-Martin; Finance Director Brian Rosso.

The Budget Workshop opened with a moment of silent meditation and salute to the Flag. The Council began budget discussions regarding the proposed FY 19/20 budget.

#### DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS/LANDFILL

Public Works Director Tim Tefft and Foreman David Caswell were present. This budget was reviewed. In response to a question about the overtime line item #4060, there has been \$16,000 spent to date. Councilor Capalbo wished to add money for tree trimming and thought that they could possibly take that money from the CIP or the 1904 building fund. Councilor Thompson wished to have a warrant item to borrow money over a three year term in order to cut all the dead trees down. Mr. Tefft felt that this wouldn't solve the problem and believed that with an additional \$20,000 in that budget they could hire outside contractors to cut the trees that are near electrical lines. This issue will be re-addressed farther along in the budget process. No changes were made to this budget.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN – The Public Works Department has one CIP project at a cost of \$80,413 which is for the first lease payment for a mid-size plow of \$28,043 and the final lease payment for the freight liner of \$52,370.

#### TAX ASSESSOR

Tax Assessor Elizabeth Monty was present. The Tax Assessor budget was reviewed. No changes were made to the expense side of the budget. The revenue line item #3400 was increased to \$750.00.

#### TAX COLLECTOR

Tax Collector Mary Lynn Caswell was present. The Tax Collector budget was reviewed. No changes were made to this budget.

#### MUNICIPAL COURT

Tax Collector and former Municipal Court Clerk Mary Lynn Caswell, was present. The Municipal Court budget was reviewed. Mrs. Caswell explained the part time Deputy Tax Collector also serves as the Municipal Court Clerk and she works one day per week on Municipal Court duties. No changes were made to this budget.

#### RECREATION

Recreation Director Mary Sawyer was present. The Recreation Department budget was reviewed. A correction was made to the Supplies, Maintenance and Operations section; line item #5390 – supplies were decreased to \$1,300 and line item #5400 program supplies was increased to \$4,800. These adjustments were related to a decline in T-ball registrations and do not affect the bottom line of that section. The T-ball and instructional baseball section was zeroed out. No other changes were made to this budget.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN – The Crandall Field Improvement is listed as a project in the CIP. No funding is necessary for FY 19/20. The Recreation Director is expecting RIDEM grants to be available in the fall, which she will apply for.

#### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (CIP)

Council President Landolfi indicated that this account was saved for long term projects and the amount that was being used this year was \$258,645. Several projects were being proposed such as \$14,600 for IT and \$122,335 for razing the 1904 school building. Originally to raze the 1904 building, they had set aside \$135,000; however, this quote was five years old and the new quote they received was \$299,000. He spoke with Principal Scanapieco and advised him that they will have to delay this project for another year. An audience member indicated that they are looking for grants as well as other ways to help raise money for this project. Councilor Capalbo suggested using \$20,000 of that fund for the tree trimming account in the Public Works Department. Councilor Thompson stated that she sees the dead trees as an emergency matter. She would like to get a

recommendation from Finance on how to handle this matter and should they obtain a loan what the debt service would be. Other projects in the CIP will be discussed with the appropriate departments during budget workshops as they are scheduled.

**WARRANT ITEMS, OTHER DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES & BUDGETARY MATTERS**

A third budget workshop will be held March 7, 2019.

The workshop was closed at 8:40 PM.

Elizabeth J. Cook-Martin

Town Clerk

Marita D. Breault

Deputy Town Clerk