

Town of Rye Budget Committee minutes

12/12/19

2020 budget work session

Attendees; Jaci Grote, Chair, Margaret Balboni, Vice Chair, Scott Marion, Jeff Ross, Shawn Crapo, Kevin Brandon, Ralph Hickson, Mae Bradshaw, Phil Winslow, Selectmen Representative

Jaci Grote opens the meeting at 6:30 with the pledge of allegiance.

There were no minutes for approval and no year to date review as the work session had not been completed.

The meeting began with a work session of unfinished business.

We tabled some department budgets at the work session because the information was either not yet available or needed clarification: Executive, Finance, Historic District, Parking Enforcement Capital Outlay.

4130-01 Executive:

This had been issued do to questions about the salary for the Town Administrator. This line item has been rectified and voted on by the BOS.

\$285, 196 motion to recommend made by Ralph Hickson, second by Mae Bradshaw, all in favor.

4150-21 Finance

Overtime was added by BOS for overtime for tasks such as attendance of deliberative session, W2 for the end of the year.

\$171,948 motion to recommend by Mae Bradshaw and second by Jeff Ross, all in favor.

Shawn Crapo raised concern that the Finance staff was receiving overtime hours and he is not getting support from the Building Inspector regarding time needed for attendance at ZBA meetings. Becky Bergeron explained to difficulty in managing the small staff of the building inspector's office and the lean staff overall. Phil also commented that BOS would look at this issue from a salary vs hourly position.

4197-22 Regional Associations

This department was tabled due to the elimination of this department from the budget with objection from the budget committee during the last work session.

\$56,440 Motion to recommend by Shawn Crapo, seconded by Jeff Ross, all in favor.

4240-18 Building and Code Enforcement

We had an 8-2 vote in the last work session due to the addition that the budget overtime assessed for attendance to ZBA meeting. The budget committee continues to support addition of overtime for an additional \$2600 as compared to the BOS budget. Phil Winslow commented that there is a philosophical difference between the ZBA and the BOS when it comes to ZBA meeting needs.

\$239,050 Motion to recommend by Mae Bradshaw, Shawn Crapo second, all in favor.

4316-27 \$5500.00 Street lighting

This was tabled due to the fixtures. Dennis said that work was completed, and the line item for the fixtures reduces from \$5000 to \$500.

\$5500.00 Mae Bradshaw made a motion to recommend, Scott second the motion, all in favor.

4589-54 Historic District

Mae explained that the Historic District has been working to set standards for the history district to make the requirement less ad hoc and more specific. Mae wanted to add \$10,000 to the original \$1310 for a budget of \$11,310.

A group in PA did similar design requirements for Portsmouth and Exeter. They quoted \$25,000 for the study. A 60/40 grant would require Rye to come up with \$10,000. The budget committee felt that this was a candidate for a warrant article vs. putting it in the budget; they felt that transparency is important.

Motion to table by Shawn Crape, second by Ralph Hickson.

Four in favor, 3 against. Jaci abstained.

Fund 8 Police Department

Kevin explained a more modernized electronic parking system totaling \$30,000.

Motion to recommend by Scott Marion and second by Ralph, all in favor.

4902-68 Capital Outlay

\$31,750 for the town wide computer

\$68,000 for fire department – cardiac monitor \$40,000, SCBA upgrade and replacement \$28,000 (cost is \$181,000 with a grant to reduce our cost to \$28,000) The RTV was tabled and not included in this number. Jaws of life will be paid using another account.

\$50,000 for transfer station – second compactor

\$13,577 for the police department – radios, tasers, traffic control signs

\$125,000 for public works – permits, pavement analysis, sidewalk repair. Perkins Road culvert permit is delayed so \$125,000 removed from original capital outlay request.

The bottom line value for capital outlay is \$288,327.00

Scott Marion made the motion to recommend, Kevin Brandon second, all in favor.

The Chair read the Warrant Articles that are normally on the ballot:

\$100,000 Highway Equipment Fund, motion to recommend by Shawn, second by Kevin, all in favor.

\$100,000 Fire and Ambulance Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund, motion to recommend by Shawn, second by Kevin, all in favor.

\$ 50,000 expandable trust fund none as the Town Employees' Accumulated Leave Fund

Mae motion to recommend, second by Scott, all in favor.

\$35,000 for the Municipal Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund.

Motion to recommend by Mae, second by Scott, all in favor.

\$30,000 establish and fund a Reevaluation Capital Reserve Fund to accumulate monies for the town reevaluation held every five years rather than taxing the residents all in one year. We are starting the fund so that we are ready in 2021 for the reevaluation. The last one was done in 2017.

Scott moves to recommend, second by Ralph Hickson, all in favor.

All warrant articles were passed unanimously

Mae asks what the percentage of the budget committee think the Historic District \$10,000 needs to be a warrant – 5 members raised their hands.

4915-4516 Expandable Trust – not ready for this meeting.

No other business to discuss.

Motion to adjourn made by Scott Marion and second by Shawn Crapo, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM