

Town of Limerick Budget Committee Compiled 11/20/17

Meeting Minutes: November 14th, 2017.

Meeting Called to order at 7 pm.

Members Present: Gil Harris, Howard Burnham, Steve McLean, Bill Jones, Justin Reinhardt, Denise Benton & Ed Morgan.

Members Absent: 0.

Selectmen present: 0.

Quorum established- All members present.

1. Meeting Minutes: Approved August 3rd, 2017 minutes.
2. New Business:
 - a. Meeting process-discussed request of a 5 yr plan from each department. This is currently requested but not always received.
 - b. Department presentations: Is it necessary to have each department do an annual presentation of their budget, if the budget is within a percentage of the previous year or the budget remains the same? Denise and Howard felt that it is part of the department heads responsibility to do an annual presentation of their departments proposed budget.
 - c. Discussed request from charities: Read who received funding last year and have received one request to date from Leavitt's Mill Health Center in Bar Mills, Maine. Voters in recent years capped the amount given to charities.
 - d. Impact of Nov 7th, 2017 vote in regards to Budget Committee Ordinance change allowing town employees to serve on Budget Committee: The ordinance change failed. Who is an employee? Are stipend positions employees? Discussed compensation forms; per-diem, hourly and stipends. Any monies received are compensation-hourly or stipend. What considers the position an employee? It was previously stated to the board by MMA that if a person receives a dime as pay, either hourly or stipend, then they are an employee. Also, MRSA-30A states any monies received are compensation. It was stated that monies paid to fire/EMS are being paid to individuals who are under a private corporation. This is a gray area. How about contractors? Where do they fall? Discussed recusal. Suggestion to consult with town attorney. Obvious conflict should result in a committee member recusing themselves.
 - e. Procedural voting by Chair: Gil proposed that the chair will only vote in case of a tie. 4 in favor/2 opposed. Perhaps clarification needs to be obtained. Other elected boards do not operate this way.
 - f. Recreation Dept. Presentation: Lisa LePage presented the recreation budget with the help of her husband Dean(Lisa was recuperating and asked Dean to sit in to help with clarification). The scoreboard can be deducted from proposed budget due to it being purchased in this past years budget. The handicapped merry-go-round for the playground at the ball field was not purchased this past year, instead the department went ahead with the purchase of the electronic scoreboard for the basketball programs. Rec. dept. did not need to purchase a lot of sporting equipment this past year, such as new soccer balls and basketballs, so made scoreboard purchase. The merry-go- round is in the proposed budget for 2018.

This merry-go-round for the playground is handicapped accessible.

Quote in rec. packet from IDC,LLC for field care. It was asked if we could do some of this ourselves to save money. Previously the rec. dept. has had a lot of volunteers donate services. The rec. dept. fertilized the fields themselves this past year. IDC closed up and winterized the irrigation system, they originally installed it and tested the soil to see what was needed for fertilizer and lime. IDC are professionals and if there were to be any issues with the winterization they would be responsible. Shaker Valley League has also paid for infield ball mix and shared some of the maintenance costs. The committee would like to see the field system re-quoted, taking out some of the maintenance that we could do ourselves.

There is a rec. request to increase the soccer field to a regulation high school size to accommodate the high school level. This is estimated to cost \$7,675.00 plus an additional \$4,500 to expand the irrigation system. Discussed whether the number of players warrant this expense and are there other fields available for the high school level to use within the district.

Discussed the ball field improvements and as to whether they belong in the rec. depts. budget or in the town property capital improvement budget.

There is an proposed increase in the stipend for the director position, due to the number of hours that this position requires. The hours are detailed in the packet. Lisa is going to be submitting her resignation as rec. director.

It was asked what the revenues for the rec. dept. were in 2017? That information was not available at this time.

The committee may have to ask the rec. director to come back at sometime for more questions.

- g. Discussed road review committee and it was stated that the town use to have a road review committee.
- h. Next meeting Gil will schedule Rd.Commissioner for 7:30 pm.
- i. Committee would like year to date balances for next meeting.

3. Budget Committee Meeting Schedule:

Nov. 21st, 2017 at 7 pm.
Nov. 28th, 2017 at 7 pm.

4. Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Denise L. Benton, Sec.