

Town of Limerick Budget Committee

Compiled 11/27/17

Meeting Minutes: November 21st, 2017.

Meeting Called to order at 7 pm.

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

Members Absent: Justin Reinhardt.

Selectmen present: John Medici.

Quorum established-Quorum met.

1. Meeting Minutes: Approved November 14th, 2017 minutes.

2. Old Business:

- a. Recreation Dept. Budget discussion: Some items presented in the proposed budget are capital expenditures. The portable bathroom expense-should it be removed from rec. budget and expensed with all other portable bathrooms on town owned properties? Laura May spoke to the fact that the following portable bathrooms are under town owned plots: Boat Launch, Boy Scout Island and Scenic Overlook. The transfer station and ball field portable bathroom expenses come out of their department budget.

Should the mowing of the ball field be expensed with the mowing of other town owned plots? It was stated that there was some miscommunication in the bid from the irrigation company, in that the mowing was included in their price and it should not have been. The mowing is currently part of the town owned properties contract and is mowed more frequently during the baseball/softball sports season and then not so often out of season. The rec. dept. will have to revise their budget.

Discussion regarding duties of rec. director-it was stated that this is not the responsibility of the Budget Committee.

It was discussed that Shaker Valley Little League has spent a substantial amount of money (\$12,000) on the Limerick ball field. They redid the infield diamond areas and hauled in a special ball field mix.

Abutter lines at the ball field were brought up in response to the request to increase the soccer field size to a regulation high school field-it was stated that this is the responsibility of the Board of Selectmen.

Parking and lights for the ball field are noted in their 5 year plan.

It was noted that the scoreboard for the basketball program at Line School is ordered and has not been paid for yet. This was purchased instead of the merry go round for the playground at the ball field.

It was asked how much revenue was brought in by the rec. department? Laura May stated that to date \$2,736 has been received out of the projected \$4,000. The basketball program still has to complete registration and will have revenue to turn.

3. Road Commissioner/Paving Budgets: Present by Bob Richardson and Steven Richardson.

Road Discussion: There are 34 miles of paved roads, 5.5 miles gravel roads, and 1.5 miles of summer maintenance roads(Sawyer Rd to Nason Rd back to Quarry Rd - majority of the gravel roads). The town plows 39 miles.

As the cost of materials increase less miles of roadway get done. Next year there are no plans for any road rebuilding projects such as was done on School Street this year. The reconstruction of School St. was extensive and cost \$80,000.

The paving budget request for 2018 is \$200,000(same as last year) and the Road Commissioner budget request is \$170,000(same as last year).

It was suggested that there be a map of town roads showing the yearly plan on what roads will be done and when. It was stated that the best bang for the buck is reclaiming the roads. Approximately 3 miles of roads have been reclaimed in town and that application holds up the best. When you grind up the roadway and reclaim it the road lasts longer verses shimming and overlaying a road.

Road Commissioner would like to pave some of the gravel roads, especially ones with hills on them. There are 35 houses on gravel roads in town.

It was asked what dollar amount would allow the Rd. Comm. to do more next year? Rd. Comm. stated that since there are no road reconstruct projects planned for next year then there will be more money freed up to do road maintenance.

4. Treasurer's Budget: Presented by elected Treasurer Laura May.

The only increase in the Treasurers budget is a 3% pay increase and the taxes to cover this increase. The standard COLA increase is not known at this time. Will need to check with the BOS.
No further questions.

5. Discussion on whether legal fees should come out of each departments budget instead one account?
The town use to have legal in each departments budget and changed it into one account.

6. Health Reimbursement Plan: It was asked of the Treasurer if she was able to use the newly offered Health Reimbursement Plan? The plan worked great for the Treasurer, she was able to use some of the \$3,000 that was available as a benefit. Some employees were unable to take advantage of this benefit due to the fact that they had to have minimal insurance coverage in order to use this plan. One employee was penalized due to being insured under the Affordable Care Act. It was determined that for next year the town needs to look into an Opt Out Plan. The BOS need to determine how to administer this plan in house and make this benefit available to those it was intended for.

3. Budget Committee Meeting Schedule:

Nov. 28th, 2017 at 7 pm.

4. Adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Denise L. Benton, Sec.