

## Town of Limerick Budget Committee Compiled 12/12/17

Meeting Minutes: December 5th, 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 and Joanne Andrews.

Quorum established-Quorum met.

1. Meeting Minutes: No minutes to approve.

2. Old Business:

a. Discussed Y/E budget meeting of Feb. 2017 that was held without notification to the chair of the budget committee. Also discussed the BC not meeting jointly with the BOS this budget season.

b. Planning Board: presented by Dottie Richards. Lowered the maps to \$1,000. Dottie believes that assessing pays for the maps. COLA increase of 2.2% for planning board secretary position. Discussed hours of planning board secretary, there is an increase of 36 hours for the year 2018. Total hours per month for secretary position are 21 currently. Discussed meeting stipends, how many meetings, etc..

c. Animal Control: presented by ACO, Wade Andrews. Included in the budget is a 3% COLA increase. Would like full amount left for emergency vet. clinic-required by State Law, if necessary. Discussed equipment purchases. ACO felt amount in budget is adequate. ACO is going to keep better track of mileage this next year. Asked what impound fees are. ACO doesn't keep track of impound fees paid by pet owners. Any impound fees come right back to the town.

d. Discussed reviewing the Budget Committee Ordinance. Secretary read the BC Ordinance.

e. Fire/EMS: Presented by Chief, Michael McLean. Increase of \$500 in all stipends, last increase in 2005-2006. It has been 10 years with no increase, more demands on the positions. Vehicle fuel up from \$7,800 to \$8,700 roughly. Medical supplies up, hospitals are no longer providing some of the supplies that they use to give to the EMS departments. Two new phones so cell phones went up, along with dispatch fees. A year to date would help with all departments-this has been requested previously. The department is proposing Intercept fees and call stipends to be part of operating budget expenses rather than come out of the Rescue billing account, as has always been. They would like Rescue Billing account to be left as a savings account. They would like intercept and medical supplies to become part of operating budget. Discussed that these two items are used by EMS and the expenses are generated by Rescue calls.

Discussed purchase of tablets vs. tough books(lap top for reports). Would like more tablets for the vehicles. Tablets also have google maps, which would help with directions. Selectmen recommended that any tablet/laptop technology purchases come out of designated franchise fees account. Tablets in fire trucks and laptops go in ambulances.

Chief felt budget has remained the same since 2008. Positions have been added since 2008 and payroll has increased to cover more per diem shifts.

Increase in fuel, are taxes paid on fuel being recovered-currently department cannot file for refund due to not being Municipal Department. Grants, are they being applied for? Just a few small ones??  
Discussion on who can apply for fuel tax refund. It was suggested that the Fire Dept. complete paperwork for fuel taxes paid, due to non Municipal Department, and obtain Selectmen signature??

Overall budget is up approximately \$34,000.

Per diem budget has gone over for this year. Increase for 2018 to \$61,600.

Payroll includes all pay except officer stipends, EMT full time position along with on call stipends and per diem shifts. Proposal is to combine all payroll articles into their budget. BOS has always kept this as separate articles.

Proposing increase in per diem hourly pay.

Discussion on certain positions left of the last wage salary survey.

Discussion on per diem hourly pay. BOS set pay not BC. Discussion on stipends and what other surrounding towns receive. Stipend positions also receive call stipends when they go out on calls.

3. Budgets left to present are Board of Appeals and Transfer Station. BC recommendations due by mid January.

4. Budget Committee Meeting Schedule: December 12th, 2017 at 7 pm.

Adjourned at 8:29 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,  
Denise L. Benton, Sec.