



TOWN of THOMPSON

BOARD OF FINANCE

Minutes: Budget Meeting

Thursday, April 14, 2016

Thompson Library/Community Center

7:00 PM

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Chairman Aaron McGarry called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

I. Roll call

- A. Members Present: Jim Bellavance, Ray Faucher, Jr., Larry Groh, Jr., Aaron McGarry, Rhonda Rooney, Susanne Witkowski.
- B. Members Absent: None.
- C. Staff Present:
Tina Fox, Recording Secretary
Orla McKiernan-Rafferty, Finance Director
- D. Also Present: Members of the Public.

McGarry stated that there are two and a half budget workshops left, and hopefully the meetings will continue to end by 9:00 PM. He stated that if anyone has questions or comments during the budget workshop, they can send those questions and comments to the Board's Recording Secretary.

II. Correspondence

- A. Letter from United Services.
- B. Spreadsheet from Neal Breen.
- C. Email from Tina Fox with a transcription of a quote from the Library Director.
- D. Email from Joe Lindley.
- E. Email from O. McKiernan-Rafferty regarding the oil tank replacement update.
- F. Email from O. McKiernan-Rafferty regarding appointment of an auditor.
- G. A. Boutaugh stated that she also shared information with O. McKiernan-Rafferty to be forwarded to the Board regarding the sprinkler system at the library.

III. Citizen's Comments: None

IV. Budget Workshop

- A. Fire Department: **There was a consensus amongst the Board to include \$25,000 for an ambulance request. There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease each fire department from \$48,000 to \$47,000.**
- B. Town Hall Building: **There was a consensus amongst the Board to include an Evening Custodian at \$14.25 per hour, 15 hours per week, \$11,158 per year; decrease the Cleaning Services line to \$0; decrease the Building Maintainer hours to 15 hours per week, from a total of \$14,133 to \$11,158; and decrease the Building Repairs/Maintenance line from \$15,000 to \$13,500. There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease the heating line from \$7,000 to \$5,000.**

MUNICIPAL BUILDING

**815 RIVERSIDE DRIVE · NO. GROSVENORDALE, CONNECTICUT 06255
TELEPHONE (860) 923-3593 · FAX (860) 923-9897**

- C. Public Works: Larry Groh, Jr. suggested increasing the Public Works Director salary by \$1,967. There was not a consensus to make this change. **There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease Equipment Repair and parts from \$45,000 to \$40,000; and decrease Truck Repair Parts from \$60,000 to \$50,000. There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease Gasoline fuel from \$20,403 to \$16,600; and decrease Diesel Fuel from \$134,336 to \$110,020. There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease the Other Supplies line from \$12,000 to \$11,000.**
- D. Transfer Station: **There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease the Equipment Repairs/Parts line from \$6,000 to \$5,000.**
- E. Snow Removal: **There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease the Salt and Sand line from \$200,000 to \$175,000. There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease the Equipment Parts line from \$11,000 to \$10,000. There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease the Snow Overtime from \$55,000 to \$41,718.** The Board discussed the additional payroll line.
- F. Building Official: Larry Groh, Jr. suggested increasing the Building Official's salary by \$12,259 to \$60,000. The Board discussed this proposal and decided to not make a decision until more research is done. The Board discussed the increase in the Cell phone line. O. McKiernan-Rafferty agreed to provide more information at a later date. **There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease the Emergency Safety Expenses line from \$1,000 to \$500.**
- G. General Services: The Board discussed changing the Thames Valley Council Community Action line and Community Kitchen line. The Board took no action pending more information.
- H. Library: There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease the Library Administration budget by \$15,000 from \$393,240 to \$378,240.
- I. Recreation Commission: **There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease the Recreation Director salary from \$49,591 to \$49,000, and to decrease the Recreation Part Time Staff salary from \$19,610 to \$19,278.** The Board discussed what the Recreation Commission can spend their donations on. Angela Hachey agreed to provide more information at a future date.
- J. Economic Development Commission: Larry Groh, Jr. suggested adding \$50,000 for a new employee line, \$25,000 to Fringe Benefits for that employee, and \$25,000 to the EDC budget for that employee to be able to do something for Thompson. There was no consensus to make the change at this time.
- K. Town Garage: **There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease the Heating line from \$7,500 to \$3,500.**
- L. Library Building: **There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease the Heating line from \$16,975 to \$12,675.** A. Boutaugh mentioned that the Library Board of Trustees voted to remove the payphone from the library, which was used for less than 70 calls in the past year. There was no consensus to make a change to the payphone line at this time, pending more research.
- M. Local Revenue: **There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease the Fuel Reimbursement line from \$80,000 to \$65,000. There was a consensus amongst the Board to increase the Education Equalization line to \$7,440,542.**

- N. Capital Improvements: **There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease the Library Repairs line from \$50,000 to \$25,000.** The Board discussed the Revaluation line, and took no action pending more information. **There was a consensus amongst the Board to delete the Recreation Truck of \$10,000. There was a consensus amongst the Board to decrease the Little League Complex from \$5,000 to \$3,000, and the Library Computers from \$5,400 to \$2,400. There was a consensus amongst the Board to finance the sweeper purchase on a four year term.** Larry Groh, Jr. suggested adding two school buses to the budget. The Board discussed the issues surrounding privatizing the school buses. No action was taken at this time.

V. Adjourn

- A. **Ray Faucher, Jr. moved and Susanne Witkowski. seconded the motion to adjourn.**

Jim Bellavance- Yes

Ray Faucher, Jr. – Yes

Larry Groh, Jr.- Yes

Aaron McGarry- Yes

Rhonda Rooney- Yes

Susanne Witkowski- Yes

The motion carried unanimously.

- B. A. McGarry adjourned the meeting at 9:48 PM.

Tina Fox
Recording Secretary