

Town of Lincoln

Budget Board Meeting

March 13, 2014

Present:

​Carl

Brunetti​​Mike

Babbitt​​Hagop

Jawharjian​​Rhonda

Lacombe

​Bill

McManus​​Maria

Marcello​​Paul DiDomenico​​Bob Turner

​Paul Deutsch​​Bill DiBiasio

Absent:

​Richard Foster

Call to Order

The meeting began at 7:31 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of March 12th were distributed for review.

Bill DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Bob Turner, to approve the minutes.

The minutes were approved by a vote of 9-0 with Rhonda Lacombe abstaining as she was not present on March 12th.

Correspondence

The Budget Board sent their additional questions regarding the Education Budget to the School Department.

The Budget Board also requested information from the Town Administrator including the details of the Police Department addition in electronic format.

The Town Planner is still putting that information together and will provide whatever information they can.

The Town Administrator and Finance Director will meet with the Budget Board on March 25th to answer any questions they may have. The Budget Board Tour of Town Facilities will be held on Saturday, March 29th.

Public Comment

There were no public comments or questions at the time.

Business

FY15 Municipal Budget

The Budget Board reviewed the Town Administrator's suggested corrections to the initial submitted budget as follows:

Department 4150 - Finance

The Town Administrator is recommending that \$10,000 be removed from Grant Matching.

Bill DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Bob Turner, that the Budget Board go with the Town Administrator's recommendation and

reduce the line by \$10,000 to \$0.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 4230 - Human Services

The Town Administrator is recommending the addition of a line for Substance Abuse Grant Matching.

The Budget Board would like to request more information and whether a specific grant is anticipated to be paid for from that line before they give their recommendation.

Department 4400 – Public Works, Central Services

The Town Administrator is recommending an increase in Street Lighting of \$25,000 which will bring it from \$350,000 to \$375,000.

Bob Turner made a motion, seconded by Bill DiBiasio to go with the Town Administrator's recommendation and make the line \$375,000.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Town Administrator is recommending that Truck Driver, Sanitation is increased by \$41,038 to adjust it from \$83,325 to \$124,363.

The change is necessary because there was an error made when budgeting that overlooked the 3rd position in place for Sanitation Truck Driver.

Bill DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Hagop Jawharjian, to go with the Town Administrator's recommendation and make the line \$124,363.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Department 4830 – Town Solicitor

The Town Administrator is recommending that Litigation and Research is adjusted from \$125,000 to \$100,000 based on historical expenditures.

Mike Babbitt made a motion, seconded Bill DiBiasio, to go with the Town Administrator's recommendation and make the line \$100,000.

Department 4700 – Fixed Charges

The FICA contribution numbers will have to be adjusted because of the corrected Truck Driver position.

Bill DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Rhonda Lacombe, to adjust Education Aid from \$9,795,054 to \$9,806,217.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Education Aid figures will also have to be corrected on the Summary Sheets once the rest of the budget has been approved.

Municipal Revenues Summary Page

School Housing Aid was recommended at a decrease of \$103,899 in error when it should have been increased by \$183,101.

Bill DiBiasio made a motion to increase the original budget of \$1,000,000 by \$287,000 to make it \$1,287,000.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Town Administrator recommended a decrease in his original recommendation for Meal and Hotel Tax of \$50,000 to make it a total of \$832,258.

Bill DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Bill McManus, to go with the Town Administrator's recommendation and make the line \$832,258.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Town Administrator recommended reducing his original recommendation for Local Revenues/Other Revenues by \$30,000 in order to level fund that line at \$100,000.

Bill DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Hagop Jawharjian, to go with the Town Administrator's recommendation and make the line \$100,000.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Town Administrator recommended adjusting his original recommendation for VLT Revenues by \$200,000 to take it from \$5,200,000 to \$5,000,000.

Bill DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Bob Turner, to go with the Town Administrator's recommendation and make the line \$5,000,000.

After discussion of the effects of changing the line, the Budget Board decided to wait until the rest of the budget has been deliberated to do anything with the line.

The motion and second were withdrawn.

The Budget Board discussed the Police Addition Project and the fact that the wording last year was not inadvertent but purposely sent any unexpended funds by June 30th back to Fund 50.

It was noted that the funds could be encumbered by writing the Purchase Orders and that would prevent that from happening.

The Budget Board also discussed once again the police addition project for the coming year and whether an addition would be better than an entirely new structure.

Also it was noted that in regards to longevity of life and maintenance, it works out better to do a flat roof rather than pitched even though initially pitched is cheaper.

The Budget Board discussed the upcoming Tour of Town Facilities.

The areas they would like to see on the tour include the Highway Garage, the Library, the new Barney Pond Bridge, Lime Acres, the Saylesville Basketball Court, Quinnville Park, the Senior Center Bocce Court Roof, Chase Farm, and Albion Park.

They would also like an update of the status of Butterfly Dam.

FY15 Education Budget

The difference in salaries is in part because new employees had been entered at 4th Step, Masters and their health care costs had also been entered at that higher rate.

Because they are now self-insured, health care can cost up to

\$250,000 per individual for catastrophic events before insurance kicks in and pays any expenses for that individual going forward. The Town pays directly into the health care and Blue Cross administers the program.

The Budget Board will be taking a closer look at all School Administration receiving raises, including the High School Principal getting 2.5%.

The only contractual raise is the Superintendent.

The Administration Salaries total \$2.4 million.

The Budget Board will also work on breaking down positions added in the past 10 years (believed to be 78) and where, when and why they were added both for teachers and for Administrators.

Public Comment

There were no public comments or questions at the time.

Adjourn

Bill DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Mike Babbitt, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm.