

## **Town of Lincoln**

### **Budget Board Meeting**

**March 31, 2016**

#### **Present:**

**Carl Brunetti Mike Babbitt Rhonda Lacombe Bob Turner  
Dave Hartley Bill McManus Paul Deutsch Felix Fernandes  
Mike O'Connell Bill DiBiasio**

#### **Absent:**

**Maria Marcello**

#### **Call to Order**

**The meeting began at 7:32 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.**

#### **Approval of Minutes**

**The minutes of March 29th were distributed for review.**

**Bill DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Dave Hartley, to approve the minutes as amended.**

**The minutes were accepted by unanimous vote.**

#### **Correspondence**

**An email was received from the Town Administrator noting that he would attempt to attend the Budget Board Meeting on Monday, April 4th to discuss any questions that the Budget Board might have.**

**The Budget Board discussed that capital improvement project recommendations should be more detailed and more put together before they are proposed to the Budget Board and Financial Town Meeting so that everyone is able to make more educated decisions about the funds that are being voted upon and it would save time and money in completing projects.**

**The Budget Board sent information regarding their recommendations for school capital from their previous meeting to the Superintendent. The Superintendent was concerned that the Architect Fees had been taken out of the recommendation for capital improvements, and also that state aid would not be as much as originally thought.**

### **Public Comment**

**Fred Hoppe discussed the state legislation that is being discussed regarding a possible education voucher system.**

**It may not get passed, but not much is known about it yet as far as what it would mean to the Town's financial burden.**

### **Business**

#### **Municipal FY17 Budget**

**As previously mentioned, the Town Administrator is supposed to be attending the next Budget Board Meeting.**

**The Board discussed information that they would like to receive and topics that they would like to go over with him including:**

## **Animal Shelter**

**Property deed restrictions to the Animal Shelter and how what the Town can or cannot do would affect the building of the possible addition there.**

**Specifications of the project including:**

- What type of HVAC system is going to be installed?**
- What will be done with coating of the roof?**
- What type of cages will be used and how many?**
- Why is a generator is necessary and what kind would be used (gas or oil)?**
- What code violations currently exist?**
- How many years will this work happen over, and at what cost per year?**

**The Budget Board discussed that the town cannot compel future Committees or taxpayers to commit future funds, but the Town does need to work on planning projects out over the long-term more.**

## **Education FY17 Budget**

### **Capital Improvements**

**The Superintendent has requested that the Budget Board consider adding the Architect Fee back into their recommendation for a total of \$16,000, or 7% of each capital improvement project.**

**The Budget Board discussed that the design of the concession stand/restroom project has already been completed and paid for**

according to their knowledge, and none of the other proposed projects would require an architect's work.

There was no motion to change the recommendation that had already been voted upon for capital improvements to include Architect Fees.

The Budget Board discussed their recommended adjustments to the Education Operating Budget so far, reviewing worksheets that they compiled using 5-year average expenditures and enrollment and staffing information.

Based on historical information, the schools always tend to spend more in the second half of the year, but even at the normal expenditure rate they are likely to have a surplus at the end of the current year.

The Budget Board also discussed that if state budget changes for charter schools go through, about \$115,000 in state aid would be lost.

Bill McManus made a motion, seconded by Bill DiBiasio to recommend that the total Education Operating Budget be set at the minimum Maintenance of Effort of \$52,746,861, for an increase of 1.26%.

The Budget Board discussed how that recommendation was arrived at this year, by looking at experience rates, enrollment and staffing information, and other information gathered by the Board.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

This makes the new recommended totals:

**Town appropriation to education \$40,705,952**

**State Aid \$11,290,909**

**Medicaid Reimbursements \$ 750,000**

**Total \$52,746,861**

### **Public Comment**

**There were no public comments or questions at the time.**

### **Adjourn**

**Bill DiBiasio made a motion, seconded by Mike O'Connell, to adjourn the meeting.**

**The meeting adjourned at 9:28 pm.**