

TOWN OF TIVERTON

BUDGET COMMITTEE

WEDNESDAY, March 11, 2015

7:00 PM

TIVERTON TOWN HALL

343 HIGHLAND ROAD

TIVERTON, RI 02878

MINUTES

Meeting called to order 7:10 PM

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Roll Call: Present: Deb Janick, John Souza, Donna Cook, Madeline O'Dell, Nancy Driggs, Laura Epke, Cecil Leonard, Louise Durfee, Joe Bento

Absent: Josh Mello, Alex Cote

No Video taping at this meeting due to this being rescheduled from 3/5/15

1. Presentation of the following proposed 2016 budgets utilizing revised 3/3/15 figures:

Department of Public Works: by Steve Berlucchi

Budget presented with discussion as to over budget due to snow removal costs this year. \$72 thousand transferred from Public Works Dept to partially cover snow removal costs. This will negatively impact the paving budget, as well as, other departments whose funds could be transferred to cover snow costs. Lengthy discussion about balancing need for coverage of snow removal, as well as, maintain regular paving of roads, and repair of potholes. Mr Berlucchi

suggests a fund for these type of unexpected costs (extremely high snow removal, etc) in order to avoid the transfers which negatively impact other areas. L Epke suggests 2 types of paving accounts: one restricted and one that is regular line item as is currently and can have funds transferred if needed. Discussion also about FEMA requests and if they do refund, it occurs much later (into another fiscal year) and funds go into restricted fund. L Durfee suggests that a resolution could be made for FEMA funds go directly into restricted paving fund. Discussion of capital requests and the hotbox which was removed from 2016 proposed budget by TA/TC. Hotbox would allow for less waste of tar and also improve quality of pot hole patches. BC discussed that hotbox should be added back into budget. Provisional vote as outlined below.

Much lengthier discussion around closure of landfill and the increased request for costs of trash pick up before and after closure. L Durfee recommends that an investigation take place with Clean Water Fund for decreased rates for closure costs. L Durfee also recommends that closer monitoring of abuse of dumping into landfill, especially at “free times” where she has observed many truckloads of trash being dumped. L Epke requests rationale for significantly increased request (\$91 thousand increase which is approximately 15% higher) for trash pickup for 2016 over 2014 and 2015. Current expenses do not support this request. Mr Berlucchi to review and return info to BC.

Discussion of previous and current 2016 Budget Presentations

including, but not limited to: reviewing, modifying, and taking provisional votes to be discussed further when preparing the Budget Committee recommendations for the FTR. Provisional votes taken as follows to accept the departmental totals as recommended by the Town Administrator/Town Council unless otherwise noted:

DEPT		Motion
Made/Seconded	Amount	VOTE
Public Works: Hot box (add)		J Souza/M O'dell
	\$15,000	9-0-0

2. Old Business:

Format of Budget Committee final recommendations: Nancy Driggs presents her initial draft of the excel docket sheets for this presentation to tax payers. Members to review and discuss at 3/12/15 meeting.

3. New Business:

Upcoming Budget Presentations:

a. Mar 12, 2015: Library Services; Senior Center; Parks and Recreation

4. Approval of minutes from Feb 26, 2015 meeting: L Epke requests correction to amount of provisional vote to municipal pensions and to add in Police General contract/mandated expense total which were omitted; also change in terminology for Fire Dept operating total to correctly match budget wording. M O'dell objected to wording of

\$600 thousand deficit from 2015 budget. Discussion of members, plus D Perry and N Mello to explain that indeed \$600 thousand must be made up in order to balance 2016 budget. Wording in minutes will stand. Approval of minutes to occur at next meeting, 3/12/15.

5. Adjourn approximately 9:30 pm

Recorded and submitted by Deborah G Janick, Secretary