

DUBLIN BUDGET COMMITTEE
Meeting minutes
September 29, 2020

Present: Steve Baldwin, Nancy Campbell, William Gurney (Chair), Judy Knapp, Carole Monroe (Selectmen's Representative), K Vanderbilt and Susie Vogel

Absent: Walter Snitko

Also Present: Kate Fuller –Town Administrator, Roger Trempe - Highway

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by William Gurney.

K asked for a clarification of what Walter meant at the September 15th meeting that the fire wages would be overspent. She stated that we received funds from the state to offset the increase in the hourly rate in response to COVID19. It was pointed out that the funds would appear as revenue while the increase would impact the expense budget.

Steve moved to amend to the September 22 minutes to read, "Steve asked about the third full-time police officer and suggested that a part-time officer could be hired until the position was filled." Seconded by Susie. Motion carried.

Susie moved, and Nancy seconded, that the minutes from the September 22, 2020 meeting be approved as amended. Motion passed.

Carole provided an update on the Broadband project. The bond went through in August. The first payment will be in February \$56,525 @ 1 1/2% interest rate. Carole also said in 10 year the interest goes up to 1.6% and the highest it gets is 2.3%. CCI is paying us \$8,000 a month specifically for the bond payments and we have received August and September's payments. By the time we reach February we will have enough to pay the bond payment. In future years, we will receive more in payments than the bond payment. It is set up in a subaccount, rather than the regular chart of accounts, that Marlene manages. New poles (52) have to be put in and they are running fiber where they are able. The CCI website that will be specific for Dublin customers should be up sometime in October. They still anticipate hooking up customers during the first quarter of next year. Carole recommended that people sign up early, even if the service is not ready to be hooked up. Carole is being paid by the town (as an independent contractor) and the town is reimbursed by CCI.

Judy asked Carole about the new website. The first draft of the site is finished, the second draft is in process and she anticipates site being on line by the beginning of the year.

There were no questions on the revised Budget Committee schedule.

Roger presented the **Highway Budget**:

Mileage: reduced from \$500 to \$250 (not using personal vehicles as much)

Training: remains the same - \$700

Supplies: remains the same - \$72,000 (winter sand, hot top, spray, stone and gravel)

Uniforms: increased from \$3,800 to \$4,500 (tee shirts for summer)

Oiling/Chip Seal: Old Harrisville Rd, Bonds Corner and Cobb Meadow - \$110,767 is the bid from All-State Asphalt.

Equipment Maintenance: reduced from \$79,500 to \$10,000 because the old line was split into "Equipment Maintenance" and "Equipment Repairs" and Roger changed vendors.

Bridge and Culvert Repair: remains the same - \$2,000

Equipment Repairs: new this year - \$20,000

Contract Services: remains the same - \$25,000

Salt: remains the same - \$10,500

Telephone: reduced from \$1,680 to \$1,500

Electricity: remains the same - \$1,560

Propane: increase from \$2,082 to \$3,100 (Waste oil not coming in as much). This line also includes a small propane heater for the break room.

Building Repairs & Maintenance: remains the same - \$4,500. Replace the small empty door and 2 windows.

Diesel Fuel: remains the same - \$23,000

Gasoline: reduced from \$3,500 to \$3000

Road Signs: remains the same - \$2,500

Care of Trees: remains the same - \$6000

Misc Tools, Tires, Chains: reduced from \$13,200 to \$11,500. Needs a new pressure washer and welder. Grader tires were bought in 2020. Should this line be changed to "Equipment"?

Miscellaneous: remains the same - \$3,600 (dues, weather station, membership, wipes). Should it be changed to "Membership and Dues".

Susie asked if there is anything that has not been done because of COVID19. The only thing that has been delayed is training.

Judy asked for clarification re the new part-time officer that was recently hired. Will this individual be used to temporarily fill the full-time officer position? The new part-time officer will only be about 8 hours once a week or every other week.

The next meeting of the Budget Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, October 6, 2020 to review the Solid Waste and Town Clerk/Tax Collector budget/warrant requests.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Knapp, Co-Secretary