

DUBLIN BUDGET COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
February 2, 2021

Present: Steve Baldwin, Nancy Campbell, Bill Gurney (Chairman), Judy Knapp, Walter Snitko (Selectmen's Representative), K Vanderbilt and Susie Vogel

Also present: Kate Fuller – Town Administrator, Rick MacMillan

Meeting was called to order via Zoom at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Gurney.

Minutes from the January 26, 2021 meeting were moved by Steve and seconded by Judy and approved as presented. 6-0 (Susie not present for vote)

Kate said that she did not have any updates to the 4th quarter 2020 expenditures or revenues since the books closed on January 15, 2021.

Warrant Articles:

Recycling Building - Article 17 and Recycling Center Contingency Plan - Article 18: the BOS voted to not recommend Article 17. Carole has done an analysis and she might bring it up for a revote by the BOS at their next meeting. If the building article is not approved, Article 18 is a contingency plan to replace the trailers with new ones

Judy moved and Steve seconded a motion to recommend Articles 17 and 18. Nancy asked what does the \$20,000 in Article 18 include. Walter stated that it would be for the removal and replacement of 4 trailers. The cost is an estimate based on figures that Chris got last year. Nancy said that the town would have to end recycling since the town had voted to do it. Susie suggested it might be a matter of whether and how we want to recycle not a matter of cost. Nancy mentioned that it has been suggested that even if we didn't choose to recycle, the building could be used for Town storage. Nancy asked if Article 18 passed would the Town seriously study the recycling issue. The BOS voted on Article 17 not as the submitter, since it is a petition warrant article, but since it is a money article that effects the budget. **Article 17 - 0-5-2 Abstain (Judy and Steve) (Motion failed- Not Recommended); Article 18 - 5-0- 2 Abstain (Judy and Bill) (Motion passed-Recommended).**

Judy suggested that we could change Article 18 to read, "the sum of \$30,000 for the purchase and replacement of 4 recycling storage trailers at the cost of \$5,000 a piece and \$10,000 for the study of the recycling process for the Town of Dublin. Bill said that now we can only do an up or down vote. Walter said he would bring it to the BOS to see if they wanted to make that modification and at the very least it might give them a push in the right direction.

Chip Seal - Article 4: There is currently \$176,761 in the Road Construction Fund but we still owe 2 loan payments totaling \$155,876, that are greater than what had previously been reported. It appears the loan was refinanced in 2019 to accommodate the \$225,000 from the

Special Town meeting. The only payment in 2019 was the interest on the 2 payments for that year (\$8,097). The alternative article would have the Chip Seal, \$74,609, come from taxation instead of the Road Construction Capital Reserve Fund. If we are doing this every year should it be in the Operating Budget as a line item? This year it is for Old Harrisville Road and we have to stay on top of this. If it is a large item it is usually done as a warrant article. If we take it out of Capital Reserve it would leave a balance in the Road Construction line of \$36,276 assuming that \$90,000 is put into the fund. Nancy moved to reopen Article 4, seconded by Susie. Passed 7-0. The BOS has not voted on the revised Article 4. Nancy moved that we withdraw our recommendation on Article 4 as currently worded, seconded by Steve. Motion failed 2 (Nancy and Judy)-5.

Neil's longevity pay. He did get all of the raises that he was due, but the computation of the hourly rate was slightly in error. He is owed about \$25.00. The numbers in the budget have not been changed since they are only off by about \$4.00.

Transfer from Special Revenue Funds: it is suggested that we put in \$1. Nancy moved, K seconded that if we pass the contingency plan, we should put in the \$21,750 for the \$20,000 for Article 18 and \$1,750 for Article 16, Swap Shop roof, from the Recycling Fund. Passed 7-0

Other Long-Term Financing:

Road Construction: (\$155,876)

Budgetary Use of Fund Balance: Did we have an actual this year since we paid for Chip Seal (\$45,000) and the PO railing and stairs (\$5,000). The auditors will give Kate adjustments. Should they all be in actual for this year and not in BOS or BudCom request. We used \$156,000 to reduce the taxes in 2020, so why is that under next year Dept Requested and BOS and nothing under Budget Committee. Should it all be in This Year Actual. Kate will ask the auditor.

Broadband Bond: is no longer part of the General Fund but is now a Treasurer's Fund. The opening balance is \$1,286,525, we get about \$8,000 per month so our income is \$40,495. We had to spend half of the bond to get the project started, \$643,262, and there is \$683,758 remaining. In addition, we were reimbursed for legal fees.

Fire Truck - Tanker: (\$59,138)

Vote on **Other Long-Term Financing** will be tabled until next week.

Nancy moved to put \$10,000 in **Transfer & Trust and Agency Funds**, Susie seconded. It is Cemetery and Welfare Trust Funds. Passed 7-0

Judy moved, Nancy seconded, \$2,083,412 for the **Operating Budget**. Passed 7-0

Other Business:

Rick MacMillan stated that he had submitted a petition warrant article in the drop box late this afternoon with 29 signatures. (Kate and Walter stated that it was not in the drop box at close of business - 4:05 p.m.). Rick wants the Recycling Special Fund to move into a Capital Reserve account with the current restrictions in order to receive a higher interest rate. This is not coming from the Trustees of the Trust Fund or the Recycling Committee but rather from the petitioner.

Timeline for the Budget Process:

Nancy asked when and how will the MS 737 be ready for our signature right after the Budget Hearing. Kate will have an updated Expenditure and Revenue budget for next week's meeting.

Susie moved, seconded by Nancy a motion to adjourn. Passed 7-0

Meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

The Budget Committee will next meet at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 prior to the Public Hearing. The Budget Hearing will be held on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 (Wednesday, February 10, 2021 back-up date) via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Knapp, Co- Secretary