

DUBLIN BUDGET COMMITTEE

April 20, 2021

Minutes

Present: Steve Baldwin, Nancy Campbell, William Gurney (Chair), Judy Knapp, Chris Raymond (Selectmen's Representative), Susie Vogel

Absent: K Vanderbilt

Also Present: Tim Clark (Town Moderator), Kate Fuller (Town Administrator), Susan Peters (Selectperson)

Bill called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Town Meeting:

Bill welcomed Tim to the meeting. Tim outlined how the Town Meeting will be run. If the weather is not suitable, Tim can postpone the meeting. He can postpone the meeting for up to 72 hours with a 2 hour notice. There will be an outdoor field survey of the site on Thursday, April 29th at 8 a.m. A DJ will provide microphones for the BOS and Budget Committee that will be streamed through car radios. There will be a podium for people to line up and speak to warrant articles. Bill will contact the Conval Interact Club to see if there are any students who could work the election. For secret ballots, there will be a central placement of the ballot box. Other votes will be done by holding up cards outside the voter's car, if it isn't raining. The front row of cars will be for people who have mobility challenges. We will request that people wear masks even though we are outdoors. Susie suggested we make sure we have a way to jump cars if needed.

Bill suggested that at the Town Meeting, instead of going through the budget line-by-line, he will present it as he does at the Budget Hearing--giving the totals for each area and a general overview. He will highlight what is included in each section.

Members of the Budget Committee are requested to arrive by 8 am.

Approval of Minutes and Election of Officers:

Minutes for the February 9th meeting were moved by Susie and seconded by Steve. Passed 6-0.

Minutes for the February 9th Budget hearing were moved by Judy and seconded by Susie. Passed 6-0.

Chair: Susie nominated Bill, second by Nancy. Passed 5-0-1 abstain (Bill).

Secretary: Susie nominated Nancy and Judy as co-secretary and Steve seconded. Passed 4-0-2 (abstain - Judy and Nancy).

Warrant Articles:

There have been not any changes in the warrant articles. Steve mentioned that there might be state funding for parks and recreation. He has sent the information to Jerry Branch. Chris said that the main question is whether the town supports maintaining the Rotary Park. Nancy pointed out that the deed states that the land be managed by the Conservation Commission.

First Quarter Expenditures:

In answer to the question Kate had asked regarding the line for Public Notices, Judy stated that public notices should be in Advertising. Nancy point out that there is no money budgeted in that line.* Steve said that he had been told that the health insurance rate might go down. Kate pointed out that changes in individual policies would negate the decreases.

Highway: There are 2 new employees in the Highway Department. How will the budget accommodate more individuals than planned? Chris indicated that since we were down one individual and that the new hires were beginning after the end of the first quarter, this would not be an issue.

Equipment Maintenance: \$10,000 budgeted, \$2,438 spent. Everything is now in good working order.

Equipment Repairs- 57% left-Chris reported there were expensive repairs late winter, one being the re-building of the 1-ton sander.

Police - Special Details: \$9,000 was budgeted but will probably be over since there have been more details due to Consolidated Communications construction. The rate charged to companies has been raised to \$70 (\$50 for officer and \$20 for the town). A new town ordinance requires a uniformed detail on Rt. 101 or 137. The Chief can also require one on other town roads.

Full-Time Officer Salaries: We are short again another officer so that we should have enough funds.

Broadband should be hooked up to Town Hall next week.

Revenue: have not gotten any revenue yet from the state for meals and rooms tax. We will not be receiving any shared revenue from the state. There is nothing new regarding PILOT payments from Phoenix House or Dublin School. We have not heard anything from the state regarding federal Covid funds that have been sent to the state.

Steve asked if the information that Kate forwarded on the Unreserved Fund Balance was current. Kate said that based on the information to date she doesn't feel that we will have excess fund balance this year.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 20th, 7 pm, top floor Town Hall.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Knapp, co-secretary

*Please Note: In checking after the meeting it was discovered that, in fact, there is \$250 in that budget line. There are other budget lines that are incorrect and will have to be corrected.