

DUBLIN BUDGET COMMITTEE

Meeting minutes September 21, 2021

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

Also Present: Kate Fuller-Town Administrator, Caleb Niemela-Recreation Committee, May Clark and Phil Cayford -Dublin Community Center, Jeff Pinney, Katherine Gekas, and Theodore Gekas.

Absent: K Vanderbilt

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

Recreation Committee- Caleb presented the Recreation Committee budget:

Mowing and port-a-potty at the ballfield will only needed until the beginning of July.

The committee will work with the Conservation Committee to expand the infield (the diamond) so that teams at all levels can play on the field. The improvement would allow them to play until the fall and expand the number of games and towns that could play here. This will also have the advantage of flattening the field. Bids will be sent out to expand the field. A warrant article in 2023 will be submitted for this effort.

We currently are affiliated with the Hillsborough League and will continue in the Hillsborough League since Peterborough is too expensive. Chris suggested that it might be possible to work with Peterborough for the use of their fields until our field is brought up to condition.

The committee will also continue to try to get signs on the fence.

Other events: they will do the tree lighting ceremony, but no Halloween party or Touch-a-Truck due to COVID. They may ask for more funding for the Touch-a-Truck event next year. It was suggested that the Halloween party line could be rolled into Special Events to bring that to \$585.

Electricity (\$200) is for the ballfield.

The proposed budget for 2022 is \$3,585, an increase of \$240 from the 2021 budget.

Caleb stated that the field could be used for other events in addition to baseball. For example, a town organization had planned to use the field for a picnic this year before COVID forced a cancellation.

Judy moved that anybody attending Budget Committee meetings from now until the conditions with COVID improve wear a mask. Nancy seconded. For those who don't want to wear a mask alternative means of attending the meeting will be arranged. Motion passed.

Dublin Community Center - May Clark and Phil Cayford presented the Dublin Community Center budget.

May noted that the \$9,727 CARES funds should be in income for 2021 and thus the budget did not go over for 2021 (from \$8,704 deficit to \$1,023 net).

They made a long term plan a couple of years ago that would reduce the amount requested from the town each year until it reached \$5,000. After that they would continue to request that money as an indication of the town's support of the Community Center and its work. Last year the initial request was for \$6,000 but was reduced because of COVID.

The Center has continued to host a number of events even with the restrictions of COVID. May highlighted that during the pandemic the Community Center provides support of members of the community and alleviates the boredom, loneliness and isolation so many feel at this time.

The personal loan will be paid off in October 2021 and does not appear in the 2022 budget. This will enable them to pay down the mortgage faster than anticipated. In the COVID budget that would be an additional \$2,000 this year. The CARES funds allowed them to restore the salary for the coordinator after it was reduced due to COVID. The coordinator will be getting an increase over the 2020 salary figure in the 2022.

The events reflect the Little Treasures Art Show which is a major fund raiser for the Center.

Susie asked if they could refinance their mortgage. The mortgage is currently a variable rate mortgage. The Center investigated that this year and with the additional fees it would have not been worth it. The current mortgage has about 13 years remaining. No penalty is paid when larger payments are made. The mortgage payment is \$650 a month (\$7,800 for the year).

(The following are corrections that May Clark noted in an email after the meeting and are included for future reference:

"In Aug 21 column, mortgage is \$5208 and Loan payment is \$10,000. I had \$2500 in the wrong place. No change to bottom line.

In Dec 2021 projected, mortgage should be \$10,312 (I had \$2500 too much) which makes the bottom line \$59,090, and the Net is \$210 in the black."

Insurance increased because of the additional space and more events. In 2021 it was \$5,228 and should be \$5,400 in 2022.

Nancy asked if they had any emergency savings in case of emergencies. They do not have any savings but since the major appeal is at the end of the year expenses have always been covered.

Other New Business:

There are no warrant articles at this time.

Bruce Simpson informed the BOS that the Planning Board **budget** will stay the same.

No ambulance or dispatch figure yet.

Minutes from the September 14, 2021, meeting were reviewed. Bill stated that it should be noted that the vote to go into non-public session was unanimous. Judy moved that the minutes be accepted as amended, seconded by Susie and approved unanimously.

Minutes from the Non-Public session were reviewed. Judy moved that the minutes be accepted as amended, seconded by Chris and approved unanimously.

BOS met with Conservation Committee last night and their budget remains mostly the same except for an increase of \$2,000 in the maintenance line for the Rotary Park.

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 28th with the **Conservation Committee** and **Library**. Nancy will chair the meeting of October 5th since Bill will be able to attend that meeting.

There being no further business a motion was made by Judy and seconded by Chris that we adjourn. Motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. Knapp, Co-Secretary