

DUBLIN BUDGET COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
January 12, 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

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

Minutes from the January 5, 2021 were moved by Nancy, seconded by K and approved as written 7-0.

The purpose of the meeting was to review and vote on draft warrant articles. Walter reported that the Selectboard had voted on all warrant articles, except for the building for the Transfer Station. All articles were recommended except for the Dublin Community Center.

Review of **draft warrant articles**:

Budget article-No action on this article until we have final figures.

Capital Reserve Funds contribution - \$205,000. The proposal for the different funds is as follows:

Heavy Highway Equipment- \$20,000

Police Cruiser - \$10,000

Fire Equipment \$30,000

Road Construction- \$90,000

Bridge Repair/Replacement - \$15,000

Town Buildings Maintenance- \$40,000

Judy moved and Steve seconded a motion to recommend this article. Motion to recommend passed 7-0.

Chip Seal Town Roads - \$74,609. K moved and Susie seconded a motion to recommend this article. Steve felt this was needed, but he asked if the Town could use the money that was left over from 2019. Walter explained that money can only be used for a specific warrant article and that any used money goes back to the general fund. Nancy said that the warrant article is only for one year unless designated as a non-lapsing article. Nancy asked if there was one more payment in 2021 on the road construction loan. There is one more payment to be made in 2021. As of 12/1/2020, there is \$247,555 in this fund. In 2021 we are going to be taking out the road construction loan payment (about \$70,000) and \$74,609 for chip sealing from the road construction capital reserve. Motion to recommend passed 7-0

Post Office Ramp and Railing -\$15,000. Susie moved and Steve seconded a motion to recommend this article. Steve asked if there were bids for this project. There are no bids, Chris Raymond got estimates. Susie asked when the ramp was last done-unknown. \$5,000 will come out of the Town Buildings Maintenance Capital Reserve fund for this article. Motion to recommend passed 7-0.

Accrual Expendable Trust Fund- \$10,000. Susie moved and Judy seconded a motion to recommend this article. Discussion on the need to have the warrant article create the fund and state the purpose of the fund. Kate will ask the Department of Revenue. Susie asked if the employees could cash out their vacation time. It is earned time-only when they are leaving the Town's employment. Revised wording of the warrant article, "To see if the town will vote to establish an Accrual Expendable Trust fund for the purpose of funding the vacation pay accrued by employees of the town when they leave the employee of the town and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be contributed to this fund." Motion to recommend passed 7-0.

Rotary Park-\$5,250. Judy moved and K seconded a motion to recommend this article. The purpose of this article was for the Conservation Commission to take over stewardship of the park and for maintenance. Steve felt this project was moving too fast and that the bulk of the money was for the survey. Susie stated the park wasn't used much and perhaps volunteers could help out. Walter explained that one boundary line needs to be surveyed. Judy said that the cost of the survey should be added to the warrant. Nancy reminded the Committee there were 2 surveys. Motion to recommend failed, 1 (Walter)-6.

Advocate funding-\$3,600. Judy moved and Steve seconded a motion to recommend this article. Susie asked about the amount of space used in each Advocate *re* the Dublin Community Center. Susie wondered if the Community Center was paying for this space. K shared that the Fire department and Emergency Management have sometimes been told there wasn't space for their article, so they stopped using the Advocate as a vehicle for information. Motion to recommend passed 6-0-1 abstain (Bill).

Health Agencies-\$7,890 The proposal for the different agencies is as follows:

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|----|--|------------|
| a) | Big Brothers Big Sisters | \$ 500.00 |
| b) | CASA | \$ 500.00 |
| c) | Southwestern Community Services | \$ 500.00 |
| d) | Monadnock Family Services | \$1,996.00 |
| e) | Home Health Care | \$1,690.00 |
| f) | River Center | \$ 500.00 |
| g) | Community Volunteer Transportation Company | \$ 500.00 |
| h) | Monadnock Region Child Advocacy Center | \$ 500.00 |
| i) | Keene Community Kitchen | \$ 500.00 |
| j) | MCVP Crisis Prevention Center | \$ 204.00 |
| k) | Hundred Nights, Inc. | \$ 500.00 |

Walter stated that the Child Advocacy Center advocates for children, not like CASA, for services and other things. New agencies are asked to provide the number of Dublin residents that are served by the agency. If there are no Dublin residents receiving services, they are not recommended. Judy explained that when there had been new agencies applying in the past, the Budget Committee had seen what the organizations did for the Town. K stated if we don't vote for this article then Home Health Care gets no money and might not provide service to the town. Judy and Bill suggested that perhaps there should be one amount that gets divided up between all the organizations applying but that Monadnock Family Services and Home Health Care be returned to the Welfare budget as line items as they were in the past. Susie asked if anyone from Town had applied for assistance-no one applied. Walter said it was too late this year but suggested that in the future that the Selectboard should be made aware of the fact that the Budget Committee would recommend that one amount be distributed to the various agencies at the Selectboard's discretion with Monadnock Family Service and Home Health Care be added to Welfare as line items. Motion to recommend failed, 1 (Walter)-6.

Dublin Community Center-\$5,000. Judy moved and K seconded a motion to recommend this article. Is the Selectboard putting this in as a warrant article? If the article is to be by petition, it is due by February 2nd. Walter reported the Selectboard was not recommending this article, so there would need to be a petition for the article. The motion was tabled. Kate will inform the Community Center that they need to do this by petition.

Expendable Trust fund contributions- \$28,284. The proposal for the different funds is as follows:

| | | |
|----|-----------------------|----------|
| a) | Revaluation | \$ 6,400 |
| b) | Master Plan | \$ 1,000 |
| c) | Town Buildings Repair | \$20,884 |

Judy moved and Susie seconded a motion to recommend this article. The \$20,884 was the cost to repair the Library roof; that brings the fund up to \$25,000. Motion to recommend passed 7-0.

Cemetery Perpetual Care Trust Funds-\$2,450. Judy moved and Steve seconded a motion to recommend this article. The Town has to accept this money for the sale of lots in 2020. Nancy pointed out that it is easier to track if names are attached to it. She is not sure why this isn't done anymore. Kate will ask DRA if we can add them. The \$2,450 to come out of the unassigned fund balance. Motion to recommend passed 7-0.

Veterans Plaques-\$17,270. Susie moved and Judy seconded a motion to recommend this article. Judy pointed out this article should include the cleaning of the World I and II plaques in addition to new plaques for Korean and Vietnam veterans. Judy amended motion to read, "... to honor those veterans who served in the Korean War and Vietnam conflict and to clean and repair the plaques for those veterans who served in World War I and World War II", seconded by Susie. Motion to recommend motion as amended passed 7-0.

Automated External Defibrillators (AED) machines-\$9,874. Nancy moved and Steve seconded a motion to recommend this article. \$9,874 will come out of the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve (per the CIP report). Motion to recommend passed 6-0-1 abstain (K).

Library Ground Water Mitigation-\$24,000. Nancy moved and Judy seconded a motion to recommend this article. The \$24,000 will come from the Library Major Repair and Maintenance Capital Reserve. Motion to recommend passed 7-0.

Swap Shop Roof-\$1,750. Nancy moved and Walter seconded a motion to recommend this article. The \$1,750 will come from the Recycling Fund. Motion to recommend passed 7-0.

Recycling Building-\$110,000. Walter reported that the Selectboard didn't recommend a new building for storage for recyclables-there was no justification for it and the issue didn't come up until late October/early November. Discussion about the cost to haul trash away (\$35,000) and, to date, 23 tons hauled away. We should be protecting the environment, privatization/regionalization and concern about the safety issues with the trailers if the Town does nothing. Walter reported there would be an article for new trailers. Judy asked if there were signs telling people to wear masks at the center. Kate to find out. During the meeting Kate had been notified that there would be a meeting with the Recycling Committee January 25 to defend the need for the building and justify the cost. Discussion ensued over the future of recycling at the Transfer Station. The motion was tabled until after the meeting.

Next meeting **Wednesday**, January 20th via Zoom at 7 pm. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy E. Campbell, Co- Secretary