

ITEM 2: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2018 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)

C) General Assistance

In response to Stephan Bunker’s concerns with the changes in funding practices of the County Commissioners, Richard Davis explained that a funeral expense late in the year, which is most likely the single, most expensive general assistance item that the Town provides, was what put this account over budget in 2017. He further explained how this account works, including the recent changes to the State reimbursement formula.

Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$25,000 for the 2018 General Assistance budget, which is the same amount as budgeted in 2017; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Q) T.A.N.

Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$5,000 for the 2018 T.A.N. budget, which is the same amount as budgeted in 2017; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

D) Assessing

Richard Davis stated that the updated spreadsheet on this budget is dated January 19, 2018, and includes the 2017 year-end expenditure amounts.

Michael Fogg moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$137,101 for the 2018 Assessing budget, which is an increase over 2017 of \$55,467, or 67.95%; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

E) Code Enforcement

Richard Davis pointed out that the 2017 year-end expenditure amounts have been added to this spreadsheet and there have been no changes since the initial presentation.

Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$153,676 for the 2018 Code Enforcement budget, which is an increase over 2017 of \$14,489, or 10.41%; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 2: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2018 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)

I) Community Center

Richard Davis stated that the updated spreadsheet on this budget is dated January 24, 2018, and includes the 2017 year-end expenditure amounts.

Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$120,680 for the 2018 Community Center budget, which is an increase over 2017 of \$4,138, or 3.55%; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

J) Public Works

Richard Davis stated that the updated spreadsheet on this budget is dated January 24, 2018, and includes the 2017 year-end expenditure amounts. There was a brief discussion regarding a conversion of one of the recently acquired trucks, and the status of the new truck purchased in 2017.

Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$1,305,672, for the 2018 Public Works budget, which is a decrease from 2017 of \$285,062, or -17.92%; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

K) L.O.R.A.P.

Richard Davis explained that these are pass-through monies received from the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) through the gas tax and they are to be used for road capital improvements only.

Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$158,780 for the 2018 L.O.R.A.P., which is the same amount as budgeted in 2017; Matthew Smith seconded.

In response to Joshua Bell's inquiry as to the status of a future increase in this funding, Richard Davis explained that this funding was decreased by 10% a number of years ago, from 5% to 4%, so that (MaineDOT) can use the funds for its road improvements. Maine Municipal Association unsuccessfully lobbied against it at that time, and to his knowledge, Mr. Davis has heard no other discussion regarding restoring those monies through the gas tax. Nor has the suggestion of increasing the gas tax been politically popular. Mr. Davis pointed out that, as with Farmington, many towns have been forced to supplement this, or actually supersede it, with local monies in order to get its needed roadwork done.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 2: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2018 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)

L) Five Year Road Program

Richard Davis explained that the \$14,000 overdraft of this line item was due to the difficulties with getting the paving completed to the Public Works Director's specifications.

Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$270,736 for the 2018 Five Year Road Program budget, which is the same amount as budgeted in 2017; Stephan Bunker seconded.

Public Works Director Philip Hutchins reviewed the re-adjustment of the 2018 schedule of road projects.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

M) Recycling

Richard Davis stated that the updated spreadsheet on this budget is dated January 24, 2018, and includes the 2017 year-end expenditure amounts. He pointed out that for the second year in a row there has been an overdraft in the Contractual Services line item, which is a result of paying Archie's to haul the Town's materials to the landfill in Norridgewock where formerly the Town was able to do that itself. Mr. Davis reported that the rolloff truck has been repaired, but the Town will not be able to haul its own waste until 2019 because of the contract the Town is tied into with Alan Archibald. A notation has been made to give notice of termination 30-days before the contract expires. Hauling costs, tipping fees, and a possible decrease in the sale of recycled materials were discussed.

Stephan Bunker moved to increase the Contractual Services line item by \$20,000 and approve the increased proposed amount of \$96,549 for the 2018 Recycling budget, which is an increase from 2017 of \$19,891, or 25.95%; Matthew Smith seconded.

October, 2017 weather conditions and the resulting added debris was discussed.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

N) Administration

Richard Davis stated that the updated spreadsheet on this budget is dated January 24, 2018, and includes the 2017 year-end expenditure amounts.

Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$240,299 for the 2018 Administration budget, which is a decrease from 2017 of \$7,903, or -3.18%; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 2: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2018 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)

O) Committees & Events

Richard Davis stated that the updated spreadsheet on this budget is dated January 24, 2018, and includes the 2017 year-end expenditure amounts. He explained that the increase is to cover the increased cost of Memorial Day flags for the cemeteries.

Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$7,100 for the 2018 Committees and Events budget, which is an increase over 2017 of \$300, or 4.41%; Scott Landry seconded.

Richard Davis pointed out the \$846.01 credit under Conservation Commission which was from a Tree Study Grant reimbursement. The Selectmen discussed a proposal by Chairman Bell to reduce the Planning Board line item in this budget and move \$300 of that money to the Memorial Day line item to keep the budget flat.

Matthew Smith and Scott Landry amended their motion and second to decrease the Planning Board line item to \$500, and recommend the proposed amount of \$6,800 for the 2018 Committees and Events budget, which is the same amount as budgeted in 2017; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

P) Municipal Building

Richard Davis stated that the updated spreadsheet on this budget is dated January 24, 2018, and includes the 2017 year-end expenditure amounts. He explained that the bulk of the increase in this budget is in the Land and Property Improvements line item in anticipation of installing heat pumps in the downstairs Code Enforcement offices, and installation costs for the building's new generator.

Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$101,527 for the 2018 Municipal Building budget, which is an increase over 2017 of \$7,307, or 7.76%; Matthew Smith seconded.

Joshua Bell suggested that a cost comparison over future years of the cost of oil versus the cost of electricity for the heat pumps be considered.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

R) Other Protections

Richard Davis stated that the decrease in this budget is largely due to the Insurances line item because of the 3-year bid process.

ITEM 2: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2018 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)

R) Other Protections (Cont.)

Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$468,273 for the 2018 Other Protections budget, which is a decrease from 2017 of \$30,221, or -6.06%; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

S) Debt Service

Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$102,830 for the 2018 Debt Service budget, which is an increase over 2017 of \$624, or 0.61%; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

T) Legal Reserve

Richard Davis reported that the 2017 year-end Legal Reserve balance is approximately \$20,000.

Michael Fogg moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$10,000 for the 2018 Legal Reserve budget, which is an increase over 2017 of \$2,500, or 33.33%; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

U) ADA Reserve

Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$1,500 for the 2018 ADA Reserve budget, which is the same amount as budgeted in 2017; Scott Landry seconded.

Richard Davis stated that there were no expenditures from this budget in 2017, and explained the potential use of this Reserve.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

V) Contracts / Public Services

Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$215,929 for the 2018 Contracts / Public Services budget, which is an increase over 2017 of \$3,380, or 1.59%; Scott Landry seconded.

ITEM 2: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2018 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)

V) Contracts / Public Services (Cont.)

Matthew Smith generated a brief discussion regarding whether at some point the Town should be looking at taking over the Library. The Selectmen asked Richard Davis to request that the Library provide them with some sort of quarterly activity update, as well as a copy of their annual audit report.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Richard Davis stated that the changes made tonight will change the Appropriations Summary. Once the changes are made and recommendations are added to all of the budget spreadsheets he will make them available to the Budget Committee for their meeting at 6:30 P.M. on Wednesday, January 31, 2017. Mr. Davis urged the Selectmen to attend that meeting if available in case any of the Budget Committee members have any questions.

ITEM 3: To Discuss Other Business

- A) Scott Landry pointed out that he had a discussion with Richard Davis today about the streets not having been cleaned yet. Mr. Davis stated that the Public Works crew will be cleaning up what they can tonight.
- B) Richard Davis reported that the annual Town Meeting will be held at 7:00 P.M. on Monday, March 26th at the Community Center, and he should have the Warrant ready for them to approve at the next Selectmen's meeting.
- C) Richard Davis gave an update on the applicants to date for the position of School Board Director, and pointed out that applications are due by 5:00 P.M. on Friday, February 9, 2018. Since Joshua Bell was absent at the last meeting, Mr. Davis explained to Mr. Bell the application process that was instituted to fill the final two years of Ryan Morgan's term due to his resignation. The Selectmen discussed the process for appointing an interim Director from now until June 30, 2018. To be certain everyone was clear as to the process, Mr. Davis read the statute pertaining to this matter, as well as the memo submitted by Town Clerk Leanne Dickey at the last meeting.

Stephan Bunker moved to set Friday, February 9, 2018 at 5:00 P.M. as the date and time for applications to be submitted for the position of interim School Board Director, with applications to be considered at the February 13, 2018 Selectmen's meeting; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Michael Fogg generated a brief discussion regarding why the Town of Farmington is responsible for the advertisement of any School Board Director openings instead of RSU9.

