

**FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**Thursday, January 31, 2019**

Chairman Joshua Bell called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Stephan Bunker, Michael Fogg, Matthew Smith, and Scott Landry. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Linda Grant, Fire Rescue Captain Tim Hardy, Parks & Recreation Director Matthew Foster, Code Enforcement Officer Steve Kaiser, Public Works Director Philip Hutchins, and members of the press and public were also in attendance.

**ITEM 1: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

Chairman Joshua Bell led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

**ITEM 2: To Vote Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2019 Departmental Budgets:**

Richard Davis handed out an updated Appropriations Summary sheet which he explained reflects the Budget Committee’s actions from the previous night, which is to recommend all budget amounts as presented. Mr. Davis suggested that the Selectmen vote by category, as the Budget Committee did the previous night, keeping in mind that any amount can be pulled from a category if so desired.

**General Administration**

**Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$801,941 for the 2019 General Administration budgets, which is an increase over 2018 of \$32,501, or 4.22%; Matthew Smith seconded.**

**VOTE    AFFIRMATIVE                  5    MOTION CARRIED**

**Code Enforcement**

**Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$161,137 for the 2019 Code Enforcement budget, which is an increase over 2018 of \$7,461, or 4.86%; Matthew Smith seconded.**

**VOTE    AFFIRMATIVE                  5    MOTION CARRIED**

**Police Department**

Fire Rescue Captain Tim Hardy stated that Police Chief Jack Peck and Fire Rescue Chief Terry Bell are presently dealing with a situation, but if they are needed to answer any questions they are available to come in.

**ITEM 2: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2019 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)**

**Police Department (Cont.)**

**Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$1,393,975 for the 2019 Police Department budget, which is an increase over 2018 of \$87,923, or 6.73%; Michael Fogg seconded.**

Joshua Bell asked if the vehicle trade-in is still necessary considering the accident in which the vehicle was involved. Richard Davis explained that it turned out to be a different vehicle than the one to be traded and is now an insurance matter.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSTAINED 1 MOTION CARRIED  
(Stephan Bunker)**

**Fire Rescue Department**

**Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$535,223 for the 2019 Fire Rescue budget, which is an increase over 2018 of \$10,816, or 2.06%; Scott Landry seconded.**

Joshua Bell questioned the Overtime line item. Captain Tim Hardy explained that overtime was previously included in the Call Wages line item but is now separate.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSTAINED 1 MOTION CARRIED  
(Stephan Bunker)**

**Other Protections**

**Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$539,655 for the 2019 Other Protections budgets, which is an increase over 2018 of \$71,382, or 15.24%; Matthew Smith seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**Recreation**

**Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$313,627 for the 2019 Recreation budgets, which is an increase over 2018 of \$17,387, or 5.87%; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 2: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2019 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)**

**Public Works**

**Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$1,375,157, for the 2019 Public Works budget, which is an increase over 2018 of \$69,485, or 5.32%; Matthew Smith seconded.**

**VOTE                                      AFFIRMATIVE                      5                                      MOTION CARRIED**

**Recycling**

**Matthew Smith moved to approve the proposed amount of \$100,656 for the 2019 Recycling budget, which is an increase over 2018 of \$4,107, or 4.25%; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

**VOTE                                      AFFIRMATIVE                      5                                      MOTION CARRIED**

**Cemeteries**

**Stephan Bunker moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$91,982 for the 2019 Cemeteries budget, which is a decrease from 2018 of \$1,010, or -1.09%; Matthew Smith seconded.**

**VOTE                                      AFFIRMATIVE                      5                                      MOTION CARRIED**

**Capital Improvements / Special Projects**

**Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$560,035 for the 2019 Capital Improvements / Special Projects budgets, which is an increase over 2018 of \$16,189, or 2.98%; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

**VOTE                                      AFFIRMATIVE                      5                                      MOTION CARRIED**

**Contracts/Public Services & Outside Agencies**

**Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$236,998 for the 2019 Contracts/Public Services and Outside Agencies budgets, which is an increase over 2018 of \$3,069, or 1.31%; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

Richard Davis stated that this category drew the most discussion at last night's Budget Committee meeting, much of which centered around the fact that the County should be funding these agencies, and that the consortium that was heard here recently is going

**ITEM 2: To Review and Make Recommendations on the Following Proposed 2019 Departmental Budgets: (Cont.)**

**Contracts/Public Services & Outside Agencies (Cont.)**

around to the other communities in Franklin County trying to get the communities to appropriate funds. The consortium is also urging all communities to encourage the County Commissioners to resume the funding of these agencies that serve a county-wide purpose. The Budget Committee's vote was unanimous.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**Total Municipal Operations**

**Matthew Smith moved to recommend the proposed amount of \$6,110,386 for the Total 2019 Municipal Operations budgets, which is an increase over 2018 of \$319,310, or 5.51%; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

Joshua Bell commented that in reviewing the budgets in preparation for tonight's meeting he found no room for any cuts. Richard Davis pointed out that the department heads struggled very hard with their budgets and they are all very constrained. He stated that he does not like the increase any more than anyone else, and is hoping for better revenues this year, and new valuation to even out the mill rate. He further pointed out that the "wild cards" are the RSU 9 and County budgets. Bills that are currently in front of the Legislature to help Towns were discussed. The Selectmen thanked the Town Manager and department heads for all their work on the 2019 budgets.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 3: To Approve the Minutes of January 22, 2019**

**Matthew Smith moved to approve the minutes of January 22, 2019; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 4: To Discuss Other Business**

A) Scott Landry asked the date of the Selectmen's meeting that Central Maine Power representatives will be attending and giving an update on its controversial proposed project. Richard Davis stated that the date of the meeting is February 26<sup>th</sup>, and due to the anticipated number of attendees the meeting will be at held in the downstairs meeting room at the Community Center at the regular time of 6:30 P.M. He explained that the original discussion was for the meeting to be held on February 12<sup>th</sup>, but there are several public hearings that have already been scheduled for that meeting and advertised to be held in the Municipal Building conference room.

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Matthew Smith moved to adjourn at 6:48 P.M.; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

**VOTE**

**AFFIRMATIVE 5**

**MOTION CARRIED**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda H. Grant.

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Michael J. Fogg - Secretary