

FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, January 25, 2022

6:30 P.M.

The conduct of the meeting will include remote access by telephonic, video, and electronic means. The public may attend in person or by viewing the live stream at <http://mtbluetv.org/program-live-stream-farmington-selectmen.html> or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MBTV11/> or by calling 778-5874

Chairman Matthew Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Stephan Bunker, Michael Fogg, and Joshua Bell. Selectperson Scott Landry, Town Manager Christian Waller, and Public Works Direct Phil Hutchins participated remotely as authorized by PL 2109, c.617. Executive Assistant Nancy Martin, Treasurer/Town Clerk Leanne Dickey, Code Enforcement Officer Steve Kaiser, Police Chief Ken Charles, Interim Fire Rescue Chief T.D. Hardy, Fire Rescue Deputy Chief Tim A. Hardy, Parks and Recreation Director Matthew Foster, Parks and Recreation Assistant Direct Jennifer Savage, Fire Deputy Chief/Town Budget Committee Chair Clyde Ross, Budget Committee Member Judith Murphy, TV camera operator Victor Cormier, and members of the press and public were also present. Members of the media and public participated remotely.

ITEM 1: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

ITEM 2: To Discuss the American Rescue Plan Act Funds (ARPA)

Christian Waller stated the Town has approximately \$820,000 in ARPA funds. A majority of the funds would be used to fix the Community Center roof and install a ventilation system. A portion of the monies would be earmarked for premium pay to employees who continue to work through the pandemic. Matthew Smith requested a rough estimate of premium pay for employees and how much would remain for the Community Center roof and ventilation system. Mr. Waller stated the breakdown of funds would depend upon the amount of the bonuses, but a significant amount of the funds (an estimated \$690,000 - \$749,000) would remain. Discussion included: hazard/bonus pay, other requests such as low-income/worker housing, homeless shelter, domestic violence shelter repairs. A breakdown of recommended hazard pay was requested. Mr. Waller stated he was looking at two tiers (part-time and full-time). Disbursement of ARPA funding will be discussed in detail at the February 8th Selectboard meeting.

ITEM 3: To Review the Proposed 2022 Departmental Budgets

The 2022 Budget of individual departments and line items were discussed in detail at the January 18th Special Selectboard Meeting. The Town Manager and the Department Heads answered the Selectboard's questions regarding any adjustments to line items made since the January 18th review. Mr. Waller stated the proposed budget does not utilize surplus funds. Surplus funds remain in place for emergency use.

Administration

Town Manager Christian Waller reviewed the proposed 2022 Administration budget for \$306,500 which is an increase from 2021 of \$45,419 or 17.4%.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Administration budget for \$306,500; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 OPPOSED 1 MOTION CARRIED
(Bell)

Assessing

Town Manager Christian Waller reviewed the proposed 2022 Assessing budget for \$143,748 which is an increase from 2021 of \$13,251, or 10.2%. Mr. Waller explained the Assessing budget is based on the Town’s contract with John O’Donnell and the contributions to the future tax revaluation reserve.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Assessing budget for \$143,748; Joshua Bell seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Treasurer / Clerk

Town Manager Christian Waller reviewed the proposed 2022 Treasurer/Clerk budget for \$418,100 which is an increase over 2021 of \$133,289, or 46.8%.

Michael Fogg moved to approve the Treasurer/Town Clerk budget for \$418,100; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 OPPOSED 1 MOTION CARRIED
(Bell)

Committees & Events

Town Manager Christian Waller reviewed the proposed 2022 Committees and Events budget for \$5,500, which is a decrease from 2021 of \$2,300 or -29.5%.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Committees and Events budget for \$5,500; Joshua Bell seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Municipal Building

Town Manager Christian Waller reviewed the proposed 2022 Municipal Building budget for \$94,050, which is an increase from 2021 of \$9,176, or 10.8%.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Municipal Building budget for \$94,050; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 OPPOSED 1 MOTION CARRIED
(Bell)

T.A.N.

Town Manager Christian Waller stated the annual request of \$5,000 was eliminated this year.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the T.A.N. budget for \$0.00; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

General Assistance

Treasurer/Town Clerk Leanne Dickey reviewed the proposed 2022 General Assistance budget for \$25,000, which is the same amount as budgeted in 2021.

Joshua Bell moved to approve the General Assistance budget for \$25,000; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Code Enforcement

Code Enforcement Officer Steve Kaiser reviewed the proposed 2022 Code Enforcement budget for \$236,000 which is an increase from 2021 of \$72,407, or 44.3%.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Code Enforcement Department budget for \$236,000; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Police

Police Chief Ken Charles reviewed the proposed 2022 Police Department budget for \$1,694,400 which is an increase over 2021 of \$187,612 or 12.5%.

Matthew Smith moved to approve the Police Department budget for \$1,694,400; Joshua Bell seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Fire Rescue

Interim Fire Rescue Chief T.D. Hardy reviewed the proposed 2022 Fire-Rescue Department budget for \$963,799 which is an increase over 2021 of \$192,646, or 25.0%.

Michael Fogg moved to approve the Fire-Rescue Department budget for \$963,799; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 OPPOSED 1 MOTION CARRIED
(Bell)

Other Protections

Town Manager Christian Waller reviewed the proposed 2022 Other Protections budget for \$584,900 which is an increase over 2021 of \$22,314, or 4.0%.

Michael Fogg moved to approve the Other Protections budget for \$584,900; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Parks and Recreation

Parks and Recreation Director Matthew Foster reviewed the proposed 2022 Parks and Recreation Department budget for \$386,815 which is an increase over 2021 of \$183,473 or 90.2%.

Matthew Smith moved to approve the Parks and Recreation budget for \$386,815; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 OPPOSED 1 MOTION CARRIED
(Bell)

Community Center

Parks and Recreation Director Matthew Foster and Assistant Director Jennifer Savage reviewed the proposed 2022 Community Center budget for \$177,880, which is an increase over 2021 of \$51,720 or 35.4%.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Community Center budget for \$197,880; Joshua Bell seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Public Works

Public Works Director Philip Hutchins reviewed the proposed 2022 Public Works budget for \$1,841,582 which is an increase over 2021 of \$335,366, or 22.3%.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Public Works budget for \$1,841,582; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 OPPOSED 1 MOTION CARRIED
(Bell)

Recycling

Public Works Director Philip Hutchins reviewed the proposed 2022 Recycling budget for \$178,050, which is an increase over 2021 of \$3,438, or 1.97%.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Recycling budget for \$178,050; Joshua Bell seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Cemeteries

Town Manager Christian Waller reviewed the proposed 2022 budget for \$3,810 which is a decrease from 2021 of \$92,675, or -96.1%.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Cemeteries budget for \$3,810; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

L.O.R.A.P./Capital Improvements (from State DOT funds)

Town Manager Christian Waller reviewed the proposed 2022 L.O.R.A.P. budget for \$154,900 which is an increase over 2021 of \$73, or 0.0%.

Joshua Bell moved to approve the Public Works/Capital Improvements budget for \$154,900; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Eight-Year Road Program

Public Works Director Philip Hutchins reviewed the proposed 2022 Eight-Year Road Program budget for \$650,000 which is an increase over 2021 of \$350,000, or \$116.7%.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Public Works/Eight-Year Road Program budget for \$650,000; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Debt Service

Town Manager Christian Waller reviewed the proposed 2022 Debt Service budget for \$260,400, which is an increase over 2021 of \$47,832, or 22.5%.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Debt Services budget for \$260,400; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Legal Reserve

Town Manager Christian Waller reviewed the proposed 2022 Legal Reserve for \$5,000 which is a decrease from 2021 of \$5,000, or -50.0%. The current Legal Reserve balance is \$33,311.98

Matthew Smith moved to approve the Legal Reserve budget for \$5,000; Joshua Bell seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ADA Reserve

Town Manager Christian Waller reviewed the proposed 2022 ADA Reserve budget for \$2,500, which is an increase over 2021 of \$1,500, or 150.0%.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the ADA Reserve budget of \$2,500; Joshua Bell seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Contracts / Public Services / Outside Agencies

Town Manager Christian Waller reviewed the proposed 2022 Farmington Library appropriation request for \$228,000, which is an increase over 2021 of \$22,596 or 11.0%.

Matthew Smith moved to approve the Farmington Public Library appropriation request for \$228,000; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The proposed 2022 Franklin County Animal Shelter appropriation request for \$16,900, which is a decrease from 2021 of \$172 or -1.0%.

Matthew Smith moved to approve the Franklin County Animal Shelter appropriation request for \$16,900; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The proposed Outside Agencies formerly funded by Franklin County appropriation request for \$17,998, which is an increase of \$0.00 or 0.00%

Michael Fogg moved to approve the Outside Agencies formerly funded by Franklin County appropriation request for \$17,998; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 OPPOSED 2 MOTION CARRIED
(Bunker, Bell)

ITEM 4: To Discuss Other Business

- A.** Clyde Ross stated the Budget Committee meets tomorrow night Wednesday, January 26th at 6:00 pm.
- B.** Matthew Smith thanked everyone for their efforts with the 2022 Budget.
- C.** Matthew Smith asked that people keep Matthew Foster in their prayer; he suffered the loss of a loved one recently.

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Joshua Bell moved to adjourn at 9:20 P.M.; Michael Fogg seconded.**

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5

MOTION CARRIED

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nancy L. Martin.

Michael J. Fogg - Secretary