

MINUTES

Sanbornton Budget Committee

Meeting Date and Time: Monday, December 17th, 2018 at 7:00 PM

Meeting Place: Sanbornton Town Offices, Sanbornton, N.H.

Present: Selectman Katy North, Kate Osgood, Chair Craig Weisman, Bob Presby, Justin Barriault, Ralph Rathjen

Minutes: Kate Osgood made a motion to approve the draft minutes of 12/3. Bob Presby seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Discussion of Department Budgets

4220 Fire Department – Fire Chief Paul Dexter noted that the narrative for line .111 should read that here is one per diem fighter covered, not two. He also noted that full-time firefighters moved from an 8-hour to a 12-hour shift, and explained that they are paid for a 42-hour week., sometimes working more or working less than 42 hours. Kate Osgood asked how many calls the Fire Department went on last year and Chief Dexter responded that they were called out 463 times, which is on par with this year. This included 5 building fires in Sanbornton alone, not including mutual aid response for other towns. Chair Weisman asked if the increased stipend for signing up for overnight on-call shifts has been beneficial, and the Chief responded that it has been and that those shifts are easier to fill now. Ralph Rathjen stated that he would like to see how many actual working hours these employees have put in rather than the lump sum in the budget that includes the stipend.

Justin Barriault asked if the second ambulance has been generating revenue and Chief Dexter responded that it has been, about \$8,000 worth of revenue which goes to the Ambulance fund. Kate Osgood asked about the increased cost for phones, and Chief Dexter responded that phones are used for the ambulance, engine and second ambulance through a municipal contract via Verizon. Justin Barriault asked about the increase in software in FY18; Chief Dexter responded that there were start-up costs for migrating to the new data collection system only last year so the budget is lower this year. Chair Weisman asked why the Overtime line was missing previous to FY18; Chief Dexter explained that prior to having full-time firefighters, overtime was spent from the Per Diem line. He also stated that those full-time firefighters did not have any sick time or vacation time because the positions were new, but now that they have accrued sick time/vacation time he needs to backfill with other staff from the Per Diem line.

Ralph Rathjen stated that there is no data for line .831 Training EMS; Chief Dexter responded that that is now combined in line .830 for both EMS and Fire, which were previously separated in the budget. Employees are required to receive 2 hours of training per month. He also explained that line .190 Fire/EMT Training is a payroll expense, to pay employees for attending training, whereas .831 is for cost of the training itself. Ralph stated that about 16% of the total payroll is dedicated to training which he thinks is high. He mentioned that he would like to see a total of what each employee costs the town, which is not broken down in each budget because of insurance, retirement, etc. being in different budgets. Selectman North noted that there would be privacy issues with this obtaining this information. Chief Dexter noted the only way to see that information would be to change the way the town does its budgeting. Justin Barriault asked if the hourly pay for Fire Department employees is on par with neighboring towns and Chief Dexter responded that it is, depending on certifications.

Bob Presby made a motion to accept the BOS recommended budget of \$486,934 for Fire Department. Chair Weisman seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

4290 & 4292 Forest Fire/E911 - Ralph Rathjen made a motion to accept the BOS recommended budget of \$2,023 for Forest Fire and E911. Kate Osgood seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

4153 Legal Services – Selectman North explained that the Town has a new attorney and the contracted amount is slightly higher than the last firm. Kate Osgood made a motion to accept the BOS recommended budget of \$33,002 for Legal Services. Justin Barriault seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

4520 Recreation – Selectman North explained that the Rec Department returns 50% of its budget back to the Town in a non-lapsing fund. Ralph Rathjen made a motion to accept the BOS recommended budget of \$114,972 for Recreation. Justin Barriault seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

4155 Personnel Administration – Ralph Rathjen asked to see the make-up of line .210 Medical Insurance, as it includes amounts paid to the insurance company as well as deductibles. Audry Barriault will request this from the Town Administrator for the next meeting. **No vote taken.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:05

Meeting Schedule:

Monday, January 7th at 7:30

Monday, January 21st at 7:00 (tentative per room availability)

Public Hearing: Monday, February 11th at 7:00 with a regular meeting at 6:00 (snow date of Thursday, February 14th)

Respectfully Submitted,
Audry Barriault