

**Auburn Budget Committee Meeting
November 10, 2022
Auburn Town Hall
Meeting Room
Minutes
7:00 PM**

Members Present: Peter Miles, Chairman, Dan Carpenter, Joanne Linxweiler, Paula Marzloff, Kevin Downing, School Board Representative Janice Baker and Selectman Representative Keith Leclair

Others Present: Lieutenant Charles Chabot, Chief Ray Pelton, Lil Deeb, Finance Director Patricia Rousseau, Town Administrator Chris Sterndale, and Nancy Hoijer, Recording Secretary

Chairman Miles called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- October 27, 2022

Mrs. Marzloff motioned to approve the October 27, 2022 minutes as amended. Mr. Downing seconded the motion. A vote was taken, Mrs. Baker abstained. The motion passed 6-0-1.

Budget Presentations

Finance Director Rousseau provided updated financials for the budgets being presented.

- Police – Ray Pelton

Chief Pelton presented the proposed FY 2023 budget for Police in the amount of \$231,695 which is a three percent increase.

Chief Pelton indicated one part-time officer was added. Calls for service were down by 100 this year. There were 122 arrests this year. There were seven overdoses, two treatments with Narcan and no deaths from drug overdose.

Chief Pelton noted there would be no new cruisers purchased this year but they have two payments left. The following year 1-2 new cruisers will be purchased. Fuel costs have risen significantly raising the line \$11,000 from \$25,000 to \$36,000. The hybrid has saved approximately 1,000 gallons.

Mrs. Marzloff asked if the Department paid the same cost at the pump and Chief Pelton indicated the Department has Wexx cards and does not pay the federal tax. Currently the pump prices are less than offered by the State. Cruiser maintenance is up by \$1,300 due to the cost of parts.

Mr. Leclair asked about the Revolving Fund and Chief Pelton reported a computer was purchased and radar.

Mrs. Marzloff questioned the line for Police Canine Supplies. Chief Pelton indicated the Department hopes to get a new dog next year and will need outfitting for the cage and other equipment.

Mrs. Linxweiler motioned to approve the FY 2023 Police budget in the amount of \$231,695. Mr. Carpenter seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 7-0-0.

- Debt Services/Public Safety/Public Street Lighting/Patriotic Purposes – Patricia Rousseau

- Finance Director Rousseau presented the proposed FY 2023 budget for Debt Services in the amount of \$2.00.

Mrs. Marzloff motioned to approve the FY 2023 budget for Debt Services in the amount of \$2.00. Mr. Downing seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 7-0-0.

- Finance Director Rousseau presented the proposed FY 2023 budget for Public Safety in the amount of \$1,000 which is a 100% increase. The FY 2022 budget was over expended, totaling \$998.12. The amount is for overtime for details for Town events such as E-Waste and Shred Day and does not include the election.

Mrs. Baker motioned to approve the FY 2023 budget for Public Safety in the amount of \$1,000. Mrs. Marzloff seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 7-0-0.

- Finance Director Rousseau presented the proposed FY 2023 budget for Street Lighting in the amount of \$8,100. Mrs. Linxweiler asked if the Town had considered changing from Eversource. Mr. Leclair indicated the Town would try to do better next year. Finance Director Rousseau noted the Town gets a discount from Eversource. Mr. Carpenter noted the impact from converting to LEDs.

Mrs. Linxweiler motioned to approve the FY 2023 budget for Street Lighting in the amount of \$8,100. Mr. Downing seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 7-0-0.

- Patriotic Purposes

Finance Director Rousseau presented the proposed FY 2023 budget for Patriotic Purposes in the amount of \$1,800 which is a 20% increase.

Mrs. Marzloff motioned to approve the FY 2023 budget for Patriotic Purposes in the amount of \$1,800. Mr. Downing seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 7-0-0.

Other Business:

Mr. Leclair reported the Personnel Board met and voted to recommend the 7.95% COLA and step. Health GMR is 17.9% increase. The Town is looking at other options but with minimal savings. Dental Insurance is at 1.5% increase.

Mrs. Marzloff asked if the Town is making any guarantees to snow plow drivers like other towns such as minimum hours paid. Mr. Leclair indicated that Road Agent Dross has a pulse on that and believes he guaranteed drivers minimum weekly hours last year.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 17, 2022 6:00 PM at AVS Media Center

Adjourn

Ms. Linxweiler moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 PM, seconded by Mr. Carpenter. A vote was taken; all were in agreement, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy J. Hoijer,
Recording Secretary

Note: Any person with a disability who wishes to attend this public meeting and needs to be provided a reasonable accommodation in order to participate, please call the Town Hall (603) 483-5052, or contact the Committee Secretary so that arrangements can be made.