

Minutes for Waterboro Budget Committee Meeting
February 12, 2024 at Waterboro Town Hall
4:30 p.m.

Chairman Burrows started the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Budget Committee Members Attendance: John Burrows, Debra Burrows, Christina Giordano, and Diane Seehagen. Thomas Lee was absent.

Other Attendees: Matt Bors, Laura Fish, Jason Champion, Todd Smith, Justine Pettersen, and Laura Lowe.

A. Topics of Discussion & Possible Vote:

(Line numbers are for the individual department budget sheets)

1. Request from Taylor House – Town Department #95:

Matt Bors received a request from Jim Carll, chairman of the Taylor-Frey, Leavitt House for an additional \$5,000. This winter's severe storms have created a significant water damage problem created by the water infiltration through the aging chimneys (6), two walls, and a ceiling. The \$5,000 they receive from the Town yearly just covers the usual expenses. With the extra \$5,000 they can make these repairs over the next couple of years.

Vote: Debra Burrows made a motion to change Department 95, the Taylor House, amount from \$5,000 to \$10,000. Diane Seehagen seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 – 0.

2. Recreation – Town Department #55:

Todd Smith, Recreation Director, came before the Budget Committee regarding his budget. He tried to keep his budget as flat as possible.

Line 5 – Salaries: The Salary line went up slightly due to a 4% COLA and because the hours have been increased for the boat ramp. The Select Board met a couple of times with Little Ossipee Lake Association regarding the Bladderwort that was found in the Lake. Because of this, the Board would like Todd to increase the hours at the boat ramp to 4am to 6pm to check for any invasive plants on boats.

Line 6 – Program Payroll: Justine's hours have been changed to 16 hours per week at Recreation, and the remainder of her hours will be spent at the Town Hall in Customer Service. The rest of Justine's salary for Recreation was moved to **program payroll** for Todd to use for extra help with programs. Therefore this line has gone up.

Line 12 – Dues & Subscriptions: This line has gone up because ASCAP has gone up on their license fee. He uses this for Concerts in the Park and the Blues Festival.

Line 14 – Office: This line went up because the cost of printer ink has gone up. This line is used mostly for printer ink.

Line 16 - Uniforms: This line has gone up because the price has gone up. This is used for t-shirts for camp shirts and for sports jerseys.

Line 22 - Phone: This line has gone up as they added a phone reimbursement of \$40.00 for the am supervisor. This line is also for Todd's & Justine's phone reimbursement.

Line 28 – Advertising: This line went down as not as much is needed because he has a good following with Facebook.

Line 30 – Funtown Tickets: This line stayed the same as he has not heard of a price increase.

Line 31 Program Expenses: Justine Pettersen, Funergy Director & Administrative Assistant, spoke to the committee regarding the child care programs that the Recreation Department provides for the community. These programs are the Funergy before and after school care program, Summer Day Camp, Vacation Day Camp, and Adventure Camp for the teens. The majority of the camps expenses stayed the same. However, the program expense for the Adventure camp has gone up due to the increase in price for buses. The price has almost doubled for these buses.

Line 33 – Toilets: This line went up as the price has increased. These toilets are at Friendship Park and Gobeil Park. Dwayne Woodsome brought up that an added charge for the future for these toilets will be for permitting. It is in legislature now that every porta-potty that is in service for more than seven days will have to have a permit from the Code Office.

Matt stated that for Revenue for the Recreation Department is right on target or ahead according to the most recent revenue summary sheet. He also stated that over the last couple of months he has had some conversations with Todd regarding a cash register/POS system for Recreation that will better track expenses.

Chairman Burrows asked for an explanation of what a wheelchair swing is. Christina Giordano explained. There is a community support program with services with about 20 adults with disabilities, three group homes, and some people who live in the community with disabilities. A case manager came to her and asked for an adult swing at Friendship Park. She found some pictures of a double swing. It is a structure that has a regular swing for adults and then one for wheelchairs that can go up on. She approached Todd for this parent she works with and sent Todd the information.

Vote: Christine Giordano made a motion to approve the \$398,891 for Department #55 – Recreation. Debra Burrows seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 – 0.

3. Wrap up – any additional items:

Concrete Pad – This item is not in the budget. Jason Champion had to leave for another meeting so Matt spoke regarding this issue. Matt stated that DEP made a visit to the Transfer Station and it is believed they will want the Transfer Station to install a concrete pad in front of the metal pile. He did receive some estimates. A 70x80x6 pad is just under \$30,000 and a 30x40x6 pad is \$10,550. This is a new requirement for contamination. The committee may have to get together briefly with Matt regarding this issue once Matt receives the final report back from DEP.

DPW Garage – Matt typed up a summary for endorsement for the DPW garage as requested by the Budget Committee in the last meeting. John read this to the rest of the committee members.

Vote: Debra Burrows made a motion to send this recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. Diane Seehagen seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 – 0.

There was some discussion on the Recreation Department Funergy program being self-sufficient. Todd did go up on the price of Funergy last year to help with costs.

There was some discussion on the Community Building Project that was underway before COVID hit. Matt stated that there will be future talks on this project as the school has not been a viable option in a lot of ways for the Town.

Chairman Burrows stated that they are going to try and meet with the Select Board before their meeting in a workshop regarding the budget on March 4th. He wanted to make sure all of the members were ok with this. The committee decided to meet with the Board on the 4th in a workshop at 5:30 pm.

Matt stated he has not heard back yet from the Biddeford Police regarding dispatch. He is anticipating a 5 -10% increase. This may have to be revisited – maybe on the 4th. He will let them know.

Minutes Vote: Debra Burrows made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 5th meeting. John Burrows seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 – 0.

B. Adjourn:

Vote: Diane Seehagen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Burrows seconded the motion. The motion passed 4 – 0. The meeting adjourned at 5:26 P.m.