

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT FY'16 BUDGET REQUEST

Brent presented the Selectboard with his budget proposal for FY'16. Significant changes included reallocating funds from the gravel restoration to gravel construction, decrease in culverts, increase in salt, increase in diesel and funds to repave the Westford Milton Road.

Brent would like to purchase a new loader in FY16 rather than FY18. The loader has a good trade-in value. He feels the net to be borrowed after the trade-in will be approximately \$90,000. The 2000 International is scheduled to be replaced this year however he feels the Town would benefit more by purchasing a new loader. The Board agreed with Brent. The Town will use the trade-in value as the down payment and finance the remainder. Funds for the loader in the Capital Budget will be used toward the purchase to replace the 2000 International. Bob suggested that the Town look into purchasing a used truck to replace the 2000 International given that it's only used three months out of the year.

The budget is approximately 10% less than the current year's budget after removing the Seymour Road Bridge and paving projects. The Board would like to level fund by placing more funds in the Equipment Reserve.

The garage roof appears to be leaking over the office. The Board wants Brent to contact Green Mountain Roofing to have them look at the roof to determine if it needs repairs before it causes damage.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

TOWN CLERK FY'16 BUDGET REQUEST

Nanette presented a budget request for the Clerk's Office and items for the office. Funds are being requested for elections and meetings, continuing education, new voting machine, new desktop computer, new laptop if not purchased in the current year and a salary increase for the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk to be more in line with their peers. A spreadsheet of comparative salaries was supplied to support the request.

The request also included funds for the office, including computer/tech support, replacing the porch roof and the annual fee for the alarm system. The Board requested the Town Clerk to submit a budget showing the current year and the proposed amounts.

MINUTES

Alex Weinhagen made a motion to approve the November 13, 2014 minutes as amended, seconded by Dave Adams. Motion passed: 3-0.

PERSONNEL POLICY

The Board approved the memo to the town employees with amendments with regard to the revised Personnel Policy.

DRUG & ALCOHOL POLICY

VLCT replied to the Board's questions with regard to the difference in the alcohol concentration levels in the policy. The levels in the policy are correct and are different dependent on the circumstances. The Board was satisfied with the response.

Alex Weinhagen made a motion to adopt the Drug & Alcohol Policy, seconded by Dave Adams. Motion passed: 3-0.

HEALTH INSURANCE

Blue Cross Blue Shield has advised that if an employer only offers insurance to its employees and not dependents, then the dependents can obtain insurance via the Exchange and are eligible for subsidies if applicable.

Bob Bancroft made a motion to provide eligible employees with \$7,491 to purchase a single person conventional BCBS health insurance policy and contribute \$709 to an HRA or \$5,235 to purchase a single person high deductible BCBS policy and contribute \$2,965 to an HSA, seconded by Alex Weinhagen. Motion passed: 3-0.

The Personnel Policy will be updated with this information before it is distributed to employees.

COVERED BRIDGE REPAIRS

While replacing the boards on the covered bridge, more damage was discovered. Jim Jorschick has quoted \$9,450 to address the damage and replace boards.

Dave Adams made a motion to approve a quote in the amount of \$9,450.00 submitted by Jim Jorschick to repair the covered bridge, seconded by Alex Weinhagen. Motion passed: 3-0.

DECEMBER MEETING SCHEDULE

The Board decided to meet on December 8th (4pm) and 18th (7pm) and January 2nd (2pm) for budget workshop sessions.

The Board will hold their regular meeting on December 11th as scheduled.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & PAYROLL WARRANTS

The Board approved the accounts payable and payroll warrants.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert L. Bancroft, Chair
Selectboard

Nanette Rogers
Town Administrator

