

TOWN OF DERRY

Town Council
Derry Municipal Center

April 14, 2016
Thursday - 6:30 PM

Roll Call: Councilors Katsakiores, Tripp, Morgan and Chairman Chirichiello (Councilor Bourdon arrived at 8:10 p.m., Councilors Foote and Fischer-absent
Present: ATA Stephen Daly, Town Clerk Daniel Healey

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance, warning of fire exits, handicap access, & turn off all cell phones

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Assessing

Department Mission: Assure that no property class or individual property is bearing any more or less of the tax burden than is justified based upon the market conditions existing on April 1, of each year.

Revenues: \$98,004
Expenditures: \$513,583
Net Expenses: \$415,579
Decrease 3% from FY16

Barbara Chapman presented the Assessing budget. The councilors asked if abatements are public information and are told after the approval or denial. They would like to know how much landlords are making and if an apartment owner requests an abatement they want it to be public.

Bottom Line: \$513,583

Human Services

Department Mission: To provide emergency assistance to individuals and families in Derry who lack adequate resources. They strive to improve the quality of life for those disadvantaged members of our community, in the most professional way possible.

Revenues: \$13,500
Expenditures: \$390,863
Net Expenses: \$377,363
Decrease 6% from FY16

Jill Jamro presented the Human Services budget. She states that there are clinics for people with liens on their homes, but not that many citizens attend. The revenue from welfare liens is generated from a 6% interest after the first interest free year.

Bottom Line: \$390,863

Tax Collection

Department Mission: To serve the residents of Derry and Municipal Center Departments in an efficient and courteous manner in accordance with the New Hampshire State Statue. The Tax Collector's office provides motor vehicle registration, boat registration and revenue collections, including the collection of property tax, utility billing, and general billing to the public.

Revenues: \$6,249,965
Expenditures: \$794,416
Net Expenses: \$(5,455,549)

Dawn Enwright presented the Tax Collection budget. The council is informed that with single family homes, 100% of the taxes are collected. With manufactured homes, they sometimes see a loss but they are able to roll over the home to a new tax payer rather quickly. The council asks the length of a time a property can go deeded and are told 2 days and 1 year from the day of the lien. There is an uptick in motor vehicle registrations and the council is informed that more new cars are being registered.

Bottom Line: \$794,416

Finance

Department Mission: To manage the Town of Derry's financial resources in a professional fashion in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, New Hampshire state law and the Town Charter. All activity of the Department is done with the acknowledgement of the Town's stewardship responsibility to the public for efficiently utilizing the resources entrusted to it.

Revenues: \$6,100
Expenditures: \$732,629
Net Expenses: \$726,529
Total expenses decreased \$2,077 from FY16

Janice Mosby presented the Finance budget. The council asked what the revenues are and they are told they are from insurance claims. They also asked if there is a Hardship Committee and are told there is and cases are reviewed individually.

Bottom Line: \$732,629

Other Municipal Obligations (OMO)

Department Mission

Revenues: \$2,671,685
Expenditures: \$1,700,639
Net Expenses: \$(971,046)
Decreased \$1,354,294 from FY16 or 44%

Sue Hickey presented the Other Municipal Obligations budget. The councilors question line items 120 and 190. They are informed that they are temporary wages for a member of the Conservation Commission and earn time for retirees respectively. Line 330 is also questioned and it is told that a couple of organizations are funded through that line. The Town Council wants to retire 3 bonds that have a 5.25% on average interest and they caution to never bond money that cannot be paid early. They confirm that they are able to bond outside the tax cap.

Bottom Line: \$1,700,639

Executive

Department Mission: Provide senior management oversight and support of all Town departments; assist the Town Council as an advisor and through policy implementation; maintain working relationships with organizations and entities to improve the quality of life in Derry; maintain a strong focus on economic development and growth of the Town's tax base; and ensure the delivery of efficient, equitable and responsive quality services to all citizens.

Revenues: \$3,900

Expenditures: \$517,578

Net Expenses: \$513,678

Expenses decreased \$93,743 or 15% from FY16

Sue Hickey presented the Executive budget. The councilors ask if there is a budgeted salary range for the new Town Administrator and are told yes.

Bottom Line: \$517,578

Economic Development

Department Mission: To assist in creating an environment that attracts robust businesses to Derry that meets the demand of the residents and the local workforce, and inspires current and future businesses to succeed in the community of historic Main Street storefronts complimented by the convenience of larger retailers, industry, and medical professionals.

Revenues: \$0

Expenditures: \$75,000

Net Expenses: \$75,000

Sue Hickey presented the Economic Development budget. **The councilors would like to flag this budget for more discussion and to see if savings could be applied here.** They say the Town needs a full-time Economic Development Director and would like that person hired on a performance contract.

Bottom Line: \$75,000

IT/GIS

Department Mission: To provide both application and hardware support for the Town of Derry's end users and computer systems. With an emphasis on basic issues such as; training, expedited help desk support and further application/data development.

Revenues: \$50,188

Expenditures: \$599,692

Net Expenses: \$549,504

Doug Rathburn presented the IT/GIS budget. Expenses increased \$44,000 due to the replacement of backup hardware and a paging system for the municipal center.

Expenses are funded through capital reserve funds. The councilors questioned if free Wi-Fi is still available and if it will be offered in the downtown area. They are told that it is but it is limited and that most businesses provide Wi-Fi. They ask if there can be an interactive downtown app and are told possibly soon. The councilors ask if information is stored on the cloud and they are told that approximately 85% is and it is stored in multiple locations. It is requested that a link to town council meetings be placed on the home page.

Bottom Line: \$599,692

Planning

Department Mission: Responsible for the overall development of the Town as it relates to land use policies and programs and to enhance the quality of life for Derry residents; people who work here, and the business community.

Revenues: \$32,450

Expenditures: \$266,867

Net Expenses: \$234,417

George Sioras presented the Planning budget. The town council asked if the master plan will be updated. They are told that it can be updated every 5-10 years and Derry is currently at the 5 years. A new master plan will take approximately 18 months to 2 years to complete. **Line 390 is flagged to upgrade the master plan.**

Bottom Line: \$ 266,867

Adjournment 8:15 p.m.



Town Clerk

5-5-16

Date

Recording & Transcription by: Daniel Healey, Town Clerk