

TOWN OF DERRY

Town Council
Derry Municipal Center

April 24, 2014
Tuesday - 7:00 PM

Budget Session Review FY 2015

Non-public meeting held and the minutes were not sealed.

Roll call: Councilors Cardon, Fischer, Fairbanks, Katsakiores, Dimmock, Bourdon and Chairman Osborne

Staff Present: Larry Budreau, David Gomez, Dawn Enwright, Chief Garone, Sgt. Muncey, Capt. Feole, Lt. Dan Beattie, Capt. Thomas, Jill McLaughlin, Frank Childs, Janice Mobsby and Mark Fleischer – Finance

Police

No new positions or programs. The budget submitted is less than what Chief Garone believes is necessary to deliver progressive, proactive and preventative law enforcement services to the community. Both the Police and Animal Control budgets represent a 2.1% increase above FY 14. New items in this budget are replacement of photo copier/printer, replace audio recorder, upgrade video forensic enhancement computer, mobile forensic video computer, and upgrade the UFED.

Councilors thanked the Police Department and Chief for their service to the town.

Councilor Cardon moved to reduce account #140 Overtime from \$731,522 to \$700,000, seconded by Chairman Osborne.

Vote: 3-4-0 (Councilors Dimmock, Katsakiores, Fairbanks, Fischer) Motion Failed

There was discussion on the effects of service if this overtime was cut.

Councilor Katsakiores moved the bottom line for Police in the amount of \$8,794,064 seconded by Councilor Dimmock.

Vote: 7-0-0

Animal Control

Chairman Osborne Moved the bottom line for Animal Control in the amount of: \$82,835, seconded by Councilor Katsakiores.

Vote: 7-0-0

Human Services

Jill McLaughlin gave an overview of this department and the assistance they provide to eligible Derry residents. This budget is down 5% from last year.

Chairman Osborne moved the bottom line for Human Services the in the amount of \$421,408 seconded by Councilor Bourdon

Vote: 7-0-0

Assessing

David Gomez, revenues are up due to payments in lieu of taxes, which are exempt properties that are required by statute to make payments to the town based on their income. Operational side is flat overall.

Chairman Osborne moved the bottom line for Assessing in the amount of \$579,333, seconded by Councilor Dimmock.

Vote: 7-0-0

Tax Collection

Dawn Enwright presented the collection activities, staffing and reason for overtime provided by this department.

Chairman Osborne moved the bottom line for Tax Collection in the amount of \$742,009, seconded by Councilor Katsakiores.

Vote: 7-0-0

Finance

Frank Childs highlighted the financial responsibilities of Finance Department as well as ambulance collections through Small Claims Court.

There is an increase in revenue from small claims activities and an increase in expenditures account #390 for the financial reporting requirement.

Chairman Osborne moved the bottom line for Finance in the amount of \$742,577, seconded by Councilor Katsakiores.

Vote: 7-0-0

Other Municipal Obligations

This account is not specific to a department. The expenditures side is retirees' health insurance costs, earned time payouts, property & liability insurance and legal services. Mr. Childs explained some of these items and how they are estimated.

Councilors questioned whether to flag the OMO regarding the debt payment for the Transfer Station bond since the project has not been started. Mr. Childs replied that the debt service bond still has to be paid as the Town has the funds. He would have to find out if there would be any penalties if the bond monies weren't used and the process to payback the bond.

The question was brought up if it makes sense to hire an in-house staff attorney and paralegal. There was a lengthy discussion on the need, cost and benefits for this position and the provision of legal services in general, highlighting the variety of legal specialties required by the Town. The discussion concluded with staff recommending that the budget as proposed be approved and that the Council should agendaize for further discussion how legal services would be provided in the future.

Chairman Osborne moved the bottom line for Other Municipal Obligations in the amount of \$1,963,396, seconded by Councilor Cardon Vote: 6-1-0 (Councilor Dimmock)

TIF District

Chairman Osborne moved the bottom line for the TIF District in the amount of \$246,838, seconded by Councilor Dimmock.

Vote: 7-0-0

Town Clerk

Denise Neale reviewed the duties of this office for the town as well as required by state statute. Highlighted personnel staffing for the office and the viability of the additional part-time position created last fiscal year.

Councilor Bourdon gave his positive experience as a new resident to the town a few years prior and his interaction with the Town Clerk's Office.

Councilor Fischer questioned longevity pay.

Chairman Osborne moved the bottom line for Town Clerk in the amount of \$131,788, seconded by Councilor Fairbanks.

Vote: 7-0-0

Election

Denise Neale stated RSA 658:9 which charges the Council with their duties to the election polling locations. There are three elections this year of which two are state elections. She highlighted the necessity of Public Works overtime due to set-up and break down of the polling locations as well as concern with the cut in Building and Grounds overtime and the Police Departments overtime in this budget for state elections. Next fiscal year she feels it is necessary to add Public Works overtime to this budget so that this would be specific for election use.

Councilors asked questions regarding Public Works overtime for the elections. Concern was voiced over the fact that the children are in school during the elections and the interaction between voters and the students at the schools used as polling locations. Ms. Neale explained that the Council would have to have this discussion with the School Department.

It was agreed there would need to be discussion agendized on this matter.

Chairman Osborne moved the bottom line for Elections in the amount of \$60,443, seconded by Councilor Fairbanks.

Vote: 7-0-0

Chairman Osborne asked the Councilors to individually email him in order of priority for agenda items to discuss.

Councilor Fairbanks asked that the goals be sent to the new councilors for discussion.

Chairman Osborne thanked the Finance Department, Larry Budreau and the staff for putting together this budget.

Mr. Childs stated with the cuts made that the tax rate now stand \$-.02 below last year.

Flagged items that remain are: Lawn Mower for the Cemetery and Community Development Coordinator.

Agenda for April 29, 2014

6:30 p.m. Non-Public

7:00 p.m. Old Business item 13-122

7:30 p.m. Budget & CIP Public Hearing

Adjournment 9:55 p.m.

Recording and Transcription by: Denise E Neale, Town Clerk
Motions reviewed by: Frank Childs, CFO

