

TOWN OF DERRY

Town Council Meeting
Derry Municipal Center

April 30, 2013
Thursday 7:00 p.m.

Budget Workshop

Salute to Flag, Warning of Fire Exits, Handicap Access, Turn off all Cell Phones and Pagers

Roll Call: Councilors Cardon, Osborne, Dimmock, Benson, Wetherbee, Katsakiores and
Chairman Fairbanks

Derry Public Library

Town Administrator Anderson stated that this would be Cheryl Lynch's last meeting with us. She is retiring on June 2nd.

Cheryl Lynch & Elizabeth Ives presented the Derry Public Library Budget: Elizabeth highlighted that \$83,000 in budget is for the conversion of oil to gas for heating and \$16,090 for upgrading on the fire panel. The operating budget has been lowered for FY14. The total increase is 2.9% without CIP. Capital Reserve of \$10,000 is not in this budget.

Council asked for clarification on the personnel line as there was an increase. Elizabeth stated it was not for any new positions. It was because of reclassifications. Questions were asked regarding electricity, the HVAC project, line item #440 computer lease program, and line item #490 other property related services.

Move the Derry Public Library bottom line of \$1,273,869.

Councilor Wetherbee/Councilor Benson

Vote: 6-0-1 (Fairbanks abstained)

Taylor Library

Candace Andrews and Linda Merrill presented the Taylor Library Budget: they gave an overview of their budget as presented to the Town Administrator and they asked for their entire budget to be reinstated with raises at 2% for staff and level funding in all operations and buildings.

Move to reinstate the bottom line budget of the Taylor Library in the amount of \$176,612.

Motion by Councilor Wetherbee/Councilor Benson (see vote below)

Discussion:

Council Osborne asked Town Administrator Anderson why he felt it was necessary to cut this budget. Mr. Anderson replied by stating first he supports libraries, but believes this library should be privately funded. He has a folder with information showing the Town Council has asked the Taylor & DPL trustees to come up with an integrated plan since 2005. It appears there was much resistance from the trustees of the Taylor Library. Mr. Anderson stated, "If you are looking to cut public safety (police & fire) I would prefer to cut this library." Mr. Anderson then gave the Council statistics for library space throughout the town including schools. He referred to the Taylor Library Reserve Fund in the amount of \$212,000 that could be used to fund this budget. The minutes reflect to accomplish the goal of one joint library and that the Taylor Library be a children's library or genealogy. "You are welcome to look at the history of failed meetings. This library serves a small part of the 33,000 residents. It should be a private non-profit library."

The Council asked questions regarding the disadvantage of merging, the total number of cardholders, active cardholders, and children's activities per week. They also discussed the capital reserve fund of \$212,000 and its use as well as the Trust fund balance of \$60,000 and whether to fund a portion of this budget through the Capital Reserve.

Councilor Wetherbee stated he vaguely remembered the reason the meetings ended was because there was no cost savings to the town.

Mr. Anderson suggested that the Council hold a workshop with both Library Trustees in the future to give direction toward a consolidation. There may be monetary costs in consolidation but there are better benefits to the community.

Councilor Wetherbee stated that he would not like to see the money taken from capital reserve as later on these funds could be used for the consolidation.

Vote: 5-2-0 (Osborne, Fairbanks)

Other Municipal Obligations

Mr. Childs, CFO, explained this area of the budget as the place to put things that do not fall into revenue or expense in an activity center such as expense debt service, medical expense, bank fees, property and liability insurance, etc.

Councilor Benson moved to reduce Line Item #980 by \$35,632, seconded Wetherbee

Vote: 6-0-0

Move the bottom line of OMO in the amount of \$1,940,703.

Councilor Benson/Councilor Katsakiores

Vote: 7-0-0

Administration

Larry Budreau, HR Director / Assistant Town Administrator, presented the Administration budget and highlighted what was included on the expense side and noted that in FY13 budget there is \$285,000 for union settlements which is not included in FY 2014. Another notable is in the administrative temporary position which is due to moving the farmer's market director into this line from the Economic Development line.

Council asked several questions regarding the Farmers Market revenue & cost. If the winter market were to disappear, revenue and cost would decrease. Cost of the winter market is approximately \$2000.

Motion to reduce to \$5000, Director of Farmers Market

Moved by Councilor Osborne, seconded by Councilor Cardon (See vote below)

Discussion: regarding what is necessary to run Farmer's Market.

Mr. Anderson stated that if there is a cut in this line there will be no farmer's market.

Vote: 2-5-0 (Cardon, Wetherbee, Benson, Katsakiores and Fairbanks)

Motion to reduce line item #390 by \$50,000 for Economic Development

Moved by Councilor Cardon, seconded by Councilor Osborne

Vote: 3-4-0 (Benson, Wetherbee, Katsakiores and Fairbanks)

Reduce Line item #390, by \$20,000 for Economic Development.

Councilor Fairbanks, second Osborne

Vote: 6-0-1(Dimmock - abstain)

Councilor Benson gave some background information on the downtown and the realtor who is handling the empty store fronts. Need to put together plan for future to make it flourish. Discussion continued regarding economic development failures in downtown.

Move the bottom line of Administration in the amount of \$672,802
Motion by Councilor Wetherbee/Councilor Benson
Vote: 5-2-0 (Osborne, Dimmock)

Health

Larry Budreau gave an overview of the health officer's duties and hosting of regional health network coordinator.

Move the bottom line of Health in the Amount of \$96,085
Councilor Wetherbee/Councilor Benson
Vote: 7-0-0

TIF Districts

Move the TIF District bond debt service in the amount of \$250,238
Councilor Wetherbee/Councilor Benson
Vote: 7-0-0

Flagged items

Move to reduce the cost globally of HVAC, Gasoline & Diesel Fuel from all, as appropriated in the amount of \$15,742.
Motion by Councilor Wetherbee/Councilor Benson
Vote: 7-0-0

Move to reduce the cost of HVAC, Gasoline & Diesel Fuel from Wastewater Department in the amount of \$1,040
Motion by Councilor Wetherbee/Councilor Benson
Vote: 7-0-0

Move to reduce cost of HVAC, Gasoline & Diesel Fuel from the Water Department in the amount of \$178
Motion by Councilor Wetherbee/Councilor Benson
Vote: 7-0-0

Move to Increase Line Item #940 in Cable by the amount \$44,235 for educational channel.
Motion by Councilor Wetherbee/Councilor Benson
Vote: 7-0-0

Police

Line Item #720 Police Department Buildings - no further action

Chief Garone stated that there is a need for replacement of these vehicles. He gave the total mileage per vehicle that needs to be replaced. These vehicles are becoming unsafe due to their mileage and they are in the repair stage. Chief Garone stressed safety first for employees. Councilor Cardon asked if could put off just this year.

Motion to remove Line Item #760 Vehicles from the Police Department in the amount of \$117,000
Move by (correction 5/2/13) Councilor Osborne seconded by Councilor Cardon (see below)

Frank Childs stated that if this is removed, he believes it would be a \$117,000 cut from the budget. He asked how the Council would come up with \$117,000 for funds in FY15. The leases stabilize the amount in the budget. However by doing it this way it levels the budget. Council will also need to address the vehicle repair line to make up for not obtaining new vehicles. Chief Garone estimated repairs at around \$16,000.

Mr. Anderson added if they wait for trade-in the values estimated are going to be significantly lower. This cut would only save \$.04 on the budget. Councilors continued to discuss the reasoning for cuts and delay of leasing the vehicles and how it would affect the FY2015 budget and the course this could take. Also discussed was the learning curve in understanding the budget and why certain things need to be discussed in public.

Mr. Anderson advised that if you took all the #690 line items and funded them through fund balance and left the Police Vehicles in there would be a zero effect on the tax rate.

Vote 2-4-1 (Benson, Wetherbee, Katsakiores, Fairbanks)

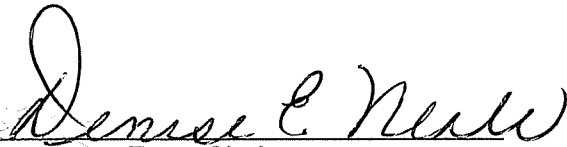
Prevention & Emergency Management

Chief Klauber reviewed information on Island Pond Station and all the calls (as requested).

Councilor Cardon recommends not removing staffing from budget. Councilor Osborne thanked Chief Klauber for answering questions and spending four hours on a Saturday with both Councilor Cardon and Councilor Osborne to review fire operations. No action taken.

Reminder there is a meeting on May 2nd @7pm with Legal Counsel and the Public Hearing @ 7:30 agenda.

Adjourned at 10:00 p.m.


Town Clerk

Recorded and Transcribed by Denise Neale, Town Clerk 5/1/13
Reviewed by: Finance