

TOWN OF SALISBURY

Budget Committee Business Meeting Summary

February 13, 2017

Marcia Murphy, Chair	Present	Sandy Miller	Present
Ralph Downes, Vice Chair	Present	Salvatore Morgani	Present
Dave Merwin	Present	Mary Heath	Present
Ed Sawyer	Present	Ken Ross-Raymond, Selectman Ex-Officio	Present
Sara (Sally) Jones	Absent	Margaret Warren, Town Administrator	Absent
Bill MacDuffie, Sr.	Present	April Rollins, Municipal Secretary	Present

Other Selectmen Present: Pete Ballou and Sam Tucker

General Public Present: Kathie Downes, James Rollins, Anne Ross-Raymond, Sharon MacDuffie, Raymond Deary, Lorna Carlisle, Rick Chandler, Jim Minard and Fire Chief, Bill MacDuffie

Handouts for Meeting:

- 2017 Proposed Budget & Revenue figures through 12/31/16 plus 2017 Estimated
- 2017 Warrant Articles

Chair Murphy opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Review & Approve Minutes of January 9, 2017 – Selectman Ross-Raymond made a **motion** to approve the meeting minutes of January 9, 2017 with correction to the attendance and the date of the minutes. Ed Sawyer **seconded** the motion. The **motion passed unanimously**.

Review / Work Session of remaining 2017 Budget Figures

Recreation Department 4520-15 - Field Lighting - Selectmen Ross-Raymond explained that this line has been increased and they will not be increasing the line on page #13. Mary Heath made a **motion** to change line 4520-15 to \$1,250 dollars. Vice Chair Downes **seconded** the motion and the **motion passed unanimously**.

Ambulance 4215-07 - Outside Ambulance Service & Billing - AA Downes reported that line was increased from \$4K to \$5K due to ComStar's ambulance billing. Selectmen Ross-Raymond made a **motion** to increase line 4215-07 of the budget from \$4K to \$5K. Sal Morgani **seconded** the motion and the **motion passed unanimously**.

Utilities & Street Lights - 4316-05 - Sal Morgani made a **motion** to place \$2,500 dollars in line 4316-05. Sandy Miller **seconded** the motion and the **motion passed unanimously**.

Debt Services – Principal (4711-14) & Interest (4721-14) – Selectmen Ross-Raymond made a **motion** to increase line item 4711-14 to \$26,429 dollars. Dave Merwin **seconded** the motion and the **motion passed unanimously**. Ed Sawyer made a **motion** to increase line item 4721-14 to \$5,000 dollars. Selectmen Ross-Raymond **seconded** the motion and the **motion passed unanimously**.

Capital Budget (5500) 2017 Warrant Articles

Article #15 - Selectmen Ross-Raymond stated adding the property record cards to the Town's website will get us up to date and help with the traffic at the Town Office. Chair Murphy noted she has found errors in some of the cards by being able to view them on-line and compare them to others. Selectmen Ross-Raymond informed the committee that the Selectmen hope to have someone from Avitar at Town Meeting to explain and noted the information is public. AA Downes stated the

\$955 dollars is an annual fee, which was a higher figure 4-5 years ago and noted Avitar is the software company and Cross Country Appraisal are the Town's assessors. Bill MacDuffie made a **motion** to recommend Warrant Article #15. Ed Sawyer **seconded** the motion and the **motion passed unanimously**.

Article #8 - Sal Morgani made a **motion** to increase the Cemetery Maintenance & Operation Trust Fund appropriation from \$500 dollars to \$750 dollars and to recommend this article. Ed Sawyer **seconded** the motion and the **motion passed unanimously**.

Article #3 - Selectman Ross-Raymond stated the total budget figure has decreased but the operating budget has increased. Sal Morgani made a **motion** to recommend \$1,135,029 dollars as the total operating budget figure. Selectman Ross-Raymond **seconded** the motion and the **motion passed unanimously**.

Public Hearing Re: Proposed 2017 Budget - Chair Murphy opened the Public Hearing at 7 p.m. Chair Murphy explained that the Budget Committee will be dealing with a fair & equitable way to pay our Town employees and Elected Officials. Chair Murphy stated the budget is down, which is good because the School District's budget is going up. The Budget Committee and those in attendance reviewed each section of the budget and the 2017 Town Warrant.

4155-20 - Accrued Liability - Sandy Miller asked what this line was for and Mary Heath replied for a payout of earned time. Selectman Ross-Raymond noted the Selectmen will be working on a "cap" for this line.

4196-15 - Workman's Compensation - Sandy Miller asked why there has only been \$500 dollars taken out of this line when there is \$5,000 dollars appropriated? AA Downes to verify this figure with the Town Bookkeeper.

4210-50 - Police, Outside Details - Selectman Ross-Raymond explained that \$13K has been added to the line for State Police coverage during the daytime, which will be like detail pay and the Town will sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) after the budget passes. Chair Murphy asked if there was an established hourly rate? Selectman Ross-Raymond replied anywhere from \$38 dollars an hour to \$60 dollars an hour.

Update of Selectmen's Issues – None at this time.

Other Business

THANK YOU! - Selectman Ross-Raymond thanked the members of the Budget Committee, Department Heads and the Office Staff for all of their time & effort creating the budget this year. The Budget Committee also thanked Ed Sawyer for his thirty plus years of service to the Budget Committee.

Important Meeting Dates - School District Meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 9, 2017 at MVHS from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.** Town Meeting will be held on **Tuesday, March 14, 2017 @ the Town Hall from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.**

Budget Committee's next meeting – Monday, April 10, 2017 at 7 p.m. at the Academy Hall (upstairs).

Selectman Ross-Raymond made a motion to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. Ed Sawyer seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,
April Rollins, Municipal Secretary