

St George Budget Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 26, 2018

Present: Susy Ellis, Richard Cohen, Liz May, Scott Vaitones, Elizabeth Curtis, Dave Percival
Absent: Earl Ludman

Motion made by Richard, seconded by Scott to accept minutes, with changes. Approved
Susy mentioned that there is need for an alternate member so make recommendations.

The purpose of the meeting was to review and make comments regarding the 2018-2019
Town Budget as proposed by the Town Manager.

Town Office: The 3% wage increase across the board was discussed. Is merit considered
when making decision? Richard is to check with Town Manager to find answer. It was
noted that some personnel- CEO/LEI got more than 3%-reason-picked up additional
duties or Property Manager where benefits were included in increase.

Select Board and Assessors: It was noted that abatement expenses will be covered up to
\$10,000 in the Overlay.

Planning: Under the Conservation Commission (CC) proposed budget of \$13,350, the
Budget Committee recommends a reduction in money spent for a kiosk which would be
reflected now in a \$9000 CC budget.

Fire Department: Questions came up regarding the 35k for equipment purchases which
were confirmed later as including 25k for 4 Air Packs. Also information came later for
Personal Equipment which was for jackets and pants. The back stairs will be replaced for
15k. It was noted that a new item was added, a Rescue Tool, valued at \$30,000. 2 new
fuel tanks, one gas one diesel, are needed. Costs will be shared by school and Public
Works and Fire Department.

Public Works: It was noted that new expenses are listed-property maintenance,
equipment maintenance, supplies for example which in the past were covered by contract
services. The \$2500 for fuel is a shared cost noted above under the Fire Department.

Solid Waste: A realignment of part time and full time employees has been made. Part time employees will be eliminated leaving 3 full time employees. Increase in salaries and benefits reflect the change. With greater emphasis on composting there is less transportation and tipping fees. Training costs increase because of new full time employee.

Social and Community Services: Neighbor to Neighbor to remain at \$3000. Library increase to \$50k with stipulation that it be open one evening during the week. Generator for the emergency shelter at the school-\$80,000. Talk of leasing generator. Finance Director against this proposal. Looking at \$70,000 for the generator. It was suggested that the Town contribute its share of the costs for Clark Island to Maine Coast Heritage Trust which would be \$100,000 over 10 years at \$10K a year. The Budget Committee recommends the dollar amount be reduced to 7500 a year over the 10 years.

Harbors: Discussion on 10 Cold Storage. Decided to leave as it is for now and concurred that a public meeting to discuss future development of the area be held at a future date. Harbor Master will need a new motor in the next year or two.

No questions were raised for Animal Control, General Assistance, Parks and Recreation and Unclassified.

Motion to adjourn made by Liz, seconded by Scott, motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted


Dave Percival

Secretary