



TOWN OF ELLINGTON

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BOARD OF FINANCE

ROBERT J. CLEMENTS
Chairman

DOUGLAS B. HARDING
MARK A. JOYSE
BARRY C. PINTO
JOHN P. RACHEK
MICHAEL D. VARNEY

BUDGET HEARINGS BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS MARCH 8, 2016

MINUTES

Members Present: R. Clements-Chairman, D. Harding, M. Joyse, B. Pinto, J. Rachek, M. Varney

Others Present: N. DiCorleto-Fin. Off., L. Spielman-First Sel., S. Nicol-Supt of Schools, C. Pippin-Chief CLFD, G. Feldman-Chief EVFD, R. Tedford-Dir P&R, S. Phillips-Dir. HML, D. Crayton-Dir. Human Svs., E. Graziani-Dir Sr. Ctr., L. Houlihan-Town Planner, W. Deland-Registrar; Library Bd Members

Call to Order

Chairman Robert Clements opened the budget hearing at 7:00 PM.

Crystal Lake Fire Dept. – Chief Pippin presented this budget. He stated their budget increased by \$2,000 in Contracted Services and decreased in the Building Repairs and Maintenance line item. The 761 account includes the purchase of rescue equipment and replacement of outdated items.

Center Fire Dept. – Chief Feldman presented this budget. They have increases in utilities, cleaning and building maintenance expenses due to the addition of the second fire station. The building maintenance budget is based on a 5 year average. The line item for education is increased due to the decrease in state aid. The increase in this budget is just under 5%.

Parks & Recreation – Recreation Director, Bob Tedford presented this budget. The revenue budget has been increased and this is due to day camp and waterfront increase in use and fees. Current year revenues are 30% high than budgeted. There is a Toro Sand Pro in his capital improvements budget. First Selectman Lori Spielman stated that the Public Works Dept. should purchase the new Toro and the newest older one should be brought to the beach. This was agreeable. Bob Tedford told the Board that the Pinney Street Fields would be used this year for lacrosse games only, not for practice. This should relieve some of the wear at the Schwartz Field. He has funds donated for two scoreboards for these fields.

Hall Memorial Library – Sue Phillips, Director, presented this budget. Library use is good and higher than the national average. The line for part time personnel has been increased. The library is open 7 days a week and they need people on site. \$1,000 has been added to books and periodicals.

Human Services, Sr. Center, Youth Services – Doris Crayton and Erin Graziani presented these budgets. The increase in Youth Services is that the grant to supplement the programs has ended. They will reapply for a regional grant this spring. The Senior Center is in its third year of operation. They are seeking a part time administrative secretary for the front desk beginning January 2017. They would like someone who is knowledgeable with computer statistical data, can multi task and be there 19 hours a week. Currently they are being staffed by volunteers. They are looking into adding evening and weekend programs.

Mr. Clements stated his displeasure in hearing that they are giving resistance to the building being used by community agencies, such as the Farmers' Market. Mrs. Crayton responded that they are currently working with the Finance Officer and First Selectman to develop a Senior Center Use of Facility policy.

The Repairs and Maintenance expenses at the Senior Center for this fiscal year are high due to repairs to the building from damages from snow on the roof leaking in through the vents and plumbing repairs. Erin Graziani mentioned that the generator was hooked up this year and those expenses are reflected in the building maintenance budget. The generator only services the kitchen. The Finance Officer is getting quotes for gas blowers should the electric heat go out. The new Emergency Management Director is also looking into it.

Registrar of Voters – Wanda Deland presented this budget. The increases are in the part time payroll account. This is a busy year with the primary and the presidential election coming up. Also the second district will be voting at Crystal Lake School, so there will be a second polling place with additional poll workers. Both locations will be open for the April primary and the November elections. They would also like to have the Deputies in the office more often. The professional development line item was increased due to the State requiring that Registrars be certified. This needs to be complete by the end of 2017.

Planning Dept., Conservation, EDC, PZC, ZBA, Inland/Wetlands, Design Review – Lisa Houlihan presented these budgets. The budgets have not changed too much. The advertising line increased because they have had to go back to using the Journal Inquirer for their legal notices. They have found that since the Courant purchased the Reminder, they are not reliable in publishing on time. The State Surcharges line item has been changed to reflect the current collections.

Ellington Volunteer Ambulance Corps – The operating budget decreased \$2,000. The question of how much of the charging fund is being used for the upcoming budget was asked. The Finance Officer will get that information.

Board of Assessment Appeals
Permanent Building Committee
Water Pollution Control Authority
Ethics Commission

Flood and Erosion Control Board – The only increase in these budgets is the Permanent Building Committee part time line for recording secretary.

Adjournment

**MOVED (PINTO) SECONDED (HARDING) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN
THE BUDGET HEARING AT 7:50 PM.**

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lori Smith".

Lori Smith, Recording Secretary