March 11th, 2019

Finance Committee Meeting

**Present:** Patricia-Lee Achorn, Edward Philips, Hanna Switlekowski, Gordon Gladstone, Anja Bernier, Ira Miller, Anil Ramoju, Arnold Cohen, Daniel Lewenberg, Charles Goodman

**Absent:** William Brack

1. **Community Preservation – Corey Snow**

Corey Snow presented the community preservation budget.

* Budget is broken into three categories: open space, historic preservation and community housing.
* Each section requires 10% of the revenue that comes in to be set aside.
* State funding is now between 12-15% due to the number of participants involved.
* Total CPA funds balance is $3,790,596.39.
* Rattlesnake hill is the only upcoming project that may be on the horizon.

Corey snow presented the recommended appropriations.

* Town clerk’s office request of $117,067 for rebinding, deacidification, mending and reinforcement of vital records.
* Library request of $5,718 to repair and conserve Sharon wills and probate, Sharon papers and a map of Sharon from 1854.
* Library request of $7,200 to repair holes and cracks on the historical Carnegie library stairway.
* Library request of $32,300 to repair one 5x3 foot section in the Carnegie roof.
* Recreation request of $40,170 to add to grant of $60,000 to build the Ezra Schwartz Memorial Pavilion at Ames Street Park.
* Recreation request of $179,220 to build a playground structure with rubber surfacing and fence at Veterans Memorial Park Beach.
* Recreation request of $35,539 to replace four sets of bleachers and cement pads at Ames softball fields.
* General fund request to allocate $20,000 for the fiscal year 2020 CPC operating budget.

1. **Personnel Board – Paul Pietal**

Paul Pitel presented the Personnel Board budget.

* Increase in executive salaries and union related categories.
* Base increase is 1.5% plus performance, with a maximum of 2.5% total.
* $24,000 is the total pool amount.

# Police Department Budget – Chief John Ford

Chief John Ford presented the Police Department Budget.

* Increase of 3.16% in salaries. Expenses up 4.41%.
* Increase due to contractual issues, earned time and addition of third lieutenant.
* Canine officer to be added this year. Will be trained in patrol and bomb sniffing.
* Training costs have been increasing at a 40% rate.
* Increase of $1,500 in printing cost to print historical photographs to put up in the new facility.
* .31% overall increase.

# Fire Department Budget – Chief James Wright

Chief James Wright presented the Fire Department budget.

* 1.5% increase for salaries, totaling $118,000.
* Ambulance billing increase of $3,000 to bring up closer to actual costs.
* $800,000 in revenue from ambulance calls.
* 70% of calls for ambulance and 30% for fire.
* 24 out of 28 firefighters are paramedics.
* $5,000 increase in radio maintenance due to contractual increase with Holbrook.
* $5,000 increase in medical supplies due to stretchers, cardiac monitors, medical director costs, billing software, continuing education software and ambulance licensing and inspection.
* New fire alarm system was installed, and it comes with $3,000 in maintenance costs.
* $16,000 increase in supplies and equipment.
* Asking for four additional firefighters this year.
* Safer grant will pay 75% of step 1 firefighters for the first two years and 35% for the third.
* By adding another firefighter productivity will increase by 36%.
* Goal is to have eight firefighters on shift, right now there are six.
* A new vehicle was discussed but until eight people are on a shift it will not work.
* Significant increase in calls (10%) due to assistant living facility.
* As of February 1st, 2019, the state accepted OSHA two in two out law. Two people outside to protect the two inside.
* OSHA law is an unfunded mandate.
* Grant winners will be announced between July and September of 2019.

# Discuss and Vote Pro Forma Articles

**MOTION:** by Ira Miller **SECONDED:** by Hanna Switlekowski **VOTED:** 10-0-0 in favor of approval of Article 8: Norfolk County Retirement Annual Assessment for $3,842,292.

Ira moved Hanna seconds 10-0-0

**MOTION:** by Ira Miller **SECONDED:** by Anja Bernier **VOTED:** 10-0-0 in favor of approval of Article 9: Unemployment fund for $75,000.

**MOTION:** by Ira Miller **SECONDED:** by Anja Bernier **VOTED:** 9-1-0 in favor of approval of Article 10: Funding Other Post-Employment Benefits (O.P.E.B) Trust Fund for $350,000. Gordon Gladstone opposed.

**MOTION:** by Ira Miller **SECONDED:** by Anja Bernier **VOTED:** 10-0-0 in favor of approval of Article 11: Funding Assessor Inspection Services for $50,000.

**MOTION:** by Ira Miller **SECONDED:** by Anja Bernier **VOTED:** 10-0-0 in favor of approval of Article 12: Annual Audit Appropriation for $64,000.

**MOTION:** by Gordon Gladstone **SECONDED:** by Arnold Cohen **VOTED:** 10-0-0 in favor of approval of Article 13: Revolving Fund Exemptions.

# Liaison Updates:

No updates from the liaisons.

# Documents Distributed Since the Last Meeting

## Registry report of CPC Funding

* 1. **Pro Forma Articles with Funding**
  2. **Final Priorities Budget**
  3. **Final Budget Dollars for ATM Articles (email)**

# Minutes to be voted: February 25th

**MOTION:** by Daniel Lewenberg to approve the February 25th, 2019 minutes **SECONDED:** by Hanna Switlekowski **VOTED:** 9-0-1. Arnold Cohen abstained.

# Topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chair in 48 hours

The Planning Board public hearing will be held on March 21st, 2019.

# Adjournment

**MOTION:** by Ira Miller to adjourn **SECONDED:** by Gordon Gladstone **VOTED:** 10-0-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 pm