

TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET WORK SESSION
March 9, 2020

I. ROLL CALL

Town Council Members present:

Michael White, President
Mary E. Meagher, Vice President
Nancy Beye
William Piva
Randall White

Also in attendance:

Jamie Hainsworth, Town Administrator
Christina D. Collins, Finance Director
Chris Costa, Zoning Official
Michael Gray, Public Works Director
Andrew Wade, Parks & Recreation Director
Michael Glier, IT
Donna Fogarty, Library Director
Eugene Mihaly, Chair of the Library Board of Trustees
Denise Gamon, Assistant Town Clerk

II. CALL TO ORDER

President Michael White called the Town Council Proposed Operating Budget Work Session to order at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, March 9, 2020 in the Rosamond A. Tefft Council Chambers of the Jamestown Town Hall at 93 Narragansett Avenue, Jamestown.

III. TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION

- A) Town Operating Budget Work Session for FY 2020-2021 (July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021); review and discussion

Town Administrator Hainsworth and Finance Director Christina Collins proceeded with a PowerPoint presentation on the Town Operating Budget. The proposed budget is available on the Town website.

Town Administrator Hainsworth and Finance Director Collins reviewed the breakdown of the proposed Town and School Budgets with a combined budget of \$26,058,169; an increase of \$563,839 or 2.21%; the Town Budget is \$11,506,933; an increase of \$443,698 or 4.01%. The School Budget is \$14,551,236; an increase of \$120,141 or 0.8%. The estimated 2020-2021 property tax rate is \$8.20 per thousand dollars of assessed valuation, with a rate increase of \$.15 from the current fiscal year rate of \$8.05. The distribution of the rate for the Municipal Operations will require an increase from \$3.27 FY 2020 to the

revised rate of \$3.39 in FY 2021 or an increase of \$.12 or 3.65%. The School Department will realize a rate increase from \$4.78 in FY 2020 to \$4.81 in FY 2021, an increase of \$.03 or .58%. The balance of the revenues necessary to support the Towns' \$26 million budget is derived from the local property and motor vehicle taxes. A tax levy of \$21,289,708 is proposed for the 2020 – 2021 fiscal year. Under the 4% cap requirement, the maximum tax levy increase the Town could have sought under the existing limit, totaled \$21,727,917 or an increase of \$835,689. The proposed budget reflects an increase of \$726,143, or a 3.48% increase and \$109,546 below the 4% cap limit.

Finance Director Collins reviewed the Municipal Capital Program for FY 2020-2021, the proposal of \$834,233 reflects an increase of \$22,313 or 2.75% from the current fiscal year adopted budget of \$811,920. For FY 2020-2021 a program is offered to address existing needs within the community and a few set-aside for upcoming projects.

FY 2020-2021 Revenue Program: Town and General Revenues remain static with the exception of a slight increase in State Reimbursement for motor vehicles

FY 2020-2021 Expenditure Program:

Town Council The salary line item at \$13,800 is level funded

Town Administrator The total proposed is \$202,668; a decrease of \$7,378 or -3.51% Decrease due to personnel change, increase due to contractual obligation

Legal Services The total proposed budget is \$115,000, no change from last budget

Personnel The total proposed budget is \$1,710,968; an increase of 1.89% Line items have been adjusted to anticipate expenses, rates and enrollments

Finance Office The total proposed budget is \$221,978, an increase of \$7,201 or 3.35% Reflects contractual obligation, salary increase and increase in cost of supplies

Audit of Accounts The total proposed budget is \$24,000; an increase of \$2,000 or 9.09% Increase recommended due to Audit being bid out and increase in reporting requirements with the State

Information Technology The total proposed budget is \$89,550; an increase of \$14,550 or 19.40%

Zoning The total proposed budget is \$11,000; a decrease of \$500 or 4.35% Decrease reflects spending trend

Public Works:

Administration The proposed budget is \$61,081; an increase of \$2,694 or 4.61% Increase reflects salary/longevity increase

Engineering The proposed budget is \$56,645; an increase of \$2,189 or 4.02% Increase reflects salary/longevity increase

Highway The total proposed budget is \$1,057,646; an increase of \$29,606 or 2.88% Increase reflects salary/contractual obligation; Salary OT – reflects decrease due to trends; Vehicle Insurance – reflects rate adjustment; Upkeep of Equipment/Sand & Gravel-reflects cost increase

Snow Removal. The total proposed budget of \$77,000 is level funded.

Waste Removal The total proposed budget is \$464,300; an increase of \$8,583 or 1.88% Increase reflects contractual obligation, telephone, electricity costs and trash/recycling removal

Street Lighting The total proposed budget is \$65,000; a decrease of \$2,500 or 3.70%

Other Public Works: The total proposed budget is \$3,100; an increase of \$1,000 or 47.62% Increase for Community Band; Decrease reflects cleaning contract trends and electricity savings

Public Works Director Michael Gray submitted 2020 Proposed Road Paving for the East Passage Estate and West Reach Estates with a total cost of \$1,418,039

Public Buildings The total proposed budget is \$245,000; a decrease of \$2,000 / -.81%

Tree Management Program The total proposed budget is \$36,050 is level funded

Total Public Works The total proposed budget is \$2,065,822 ; an increase of \$39,572 or 1.95%

Library The total proposed budget is \$487,616; an increase of +3.12%; Increase for salaries, insurance, information technology & books. State Aid is provided by the State with the amount off-set in State Aid revenue

Parks and Recreation The total proposed budget is \$569,428; an increase of 3.6% Increase for salaries/longevity and the re-organization of the laborer/seasonal positions

Probate Court The total proposed is \$6,976; a decrease of \$259 or 3.58%

Elections and Town Meetings The total proposed is \$18,351; an increase of \$3,351 or 22.34%

Clerk and Records The total proposed budget is \$206,737 a decrease of \$3,732 or 1.77

Planning The total proposed budget is \$144,600; an increase of \$3,952 or 2.81%

Tax Assessor The total proposed budget is \$91,191; an increase of \$1,257 or 1.40%

Protective Service/Building Inspection The proposed budget is \$311,967; an increase of \$4,975 or 1.62%

Total General Administration The total proposed General Administration is \$3,170,786 an increase of 1.84%

Finance Director Collins stated this concludes this evening's Operating Budget review.

President White asked for questions from the audience. Karen Buetens of 164 Columbia Lane and Wayne Moore of 429 West Reach Drive both spoke in favor of the repaving project of West reach and East Passage.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the Operating Budget Work Session was adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Attest:

Denise Gamon, Assistant Town Clerk

Copies to: Town Council
 Town Administrator
 Town Solicitor
 Finance Director