



Fairhaven Board of Selectmen

February 20, 2014 Budget Meeting Minutes

Present: Chairman Charles Murphy, Vice Chairman Robert Espindola, Clerk Geoffrey Haworth, and Executive Secretary Jeffrey Osuch.

Chairman Charles Murphy called the Budget Meeting to order in the Town Hall Banquet Room at 5:10 p.m. The meeting was telecast and video recorded by Government Access.

FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET

Fire Chief Timothy Francis was present to explain his budget (listed as #26 Fire Budget). The following was discussed:

Salary & Wages

Increased overtime at \$2,600 (1%)

EMS overtime at 1%

1% raise included for Call Men

No raise for firefighters as their contract has not been negotiated

Operating Budget

Increased building repairs \$1,000

Increased postage \$50

Increased medical supplies \$5,000

Decreased telephone -\$820

*Switched \$820 to Contracted Services

Increased Contracted Services \$820

Increased Contracted Maintenance \$306

Decreased Dues & Gathering -\$250

Discussion ensued on removing the “Medical Services - \$10,000” line from the Fire budget and adding it to the Town Insurance. There was also discussion on the following four Fire Department articles.

Article 22 – Fire Copier \$5,100

Article 8 – Fire/Police Station Roof \$161,252

Article 9 – Ladder 1 (5%) \$42,500

Article 13 – Fire Gear \$6,725

Chief Francis left the meeting at 5:35pm.

POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET

At 5:35pm, Police Chief Michael Meyers was present to explain his budget (listed as #25 Police Budget). The following was discussed:

Salary & Wages

If 2% is cut (cut \$132,330) - 2 dispatchers will be laid off

Level Fund (cut \$71,442) – 1 dispatcher will be laid off and cut Administrative Sergeant’s overtime

1% increase (cut \$41,042) – cut Administrative Sergeant’s overtime

2% increase (cut \$10,611) – cut Administrative Sergeant’s overtime

A discussion also followed on removing the “Medical Services - \$15,000” line from the Police budget and adding it to the Town Insurance.

Chief Meyers left the meeting at 5:55pm.

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET

At 5:55pm, the Board met with the Board of Public Works. Present to discuss their budgets were Vincent Furtado, John Charbonneau, Linda Schick, Edward Fortin, Steven Riley, Kathy Tripp, Robert Hobson, and Brian Wotton.

John Charbonneau discussed the Park budget (#47). If cuts are required, Town Beach weeks and seasonal help will be greatly reduced. Also, the operating budget is level-funded.

Mr. Charbonneau also discussed the Highway budget (#38).

Salary & Wages

1% wage increase

A reduction would require layoffs

The Highway Department budget is level-funded.

There was general discussion on the rubbish contract. The BPW is considering CARTS and/or Pay As You Throw bags. They plan to get pricing from ABC Disposal next week.

The following articles were also discussed:

Article 32 – BPW doors \$46,644

Article 18 – Roadwork – BPW Priority

1. Bridge Street
2. Summit Drive
3. Point Street

4. Billy's Way

Vincent Furtado discussed the BPW Administration (#37), which proposes a 1% salary increase for Kathy Tripp and a new contract for himself. There is no increase in Operating Budget line items.

Edward Fortin presented the Water Department budget (#40).

Salary & Wages

1% increase

Steps & Longevity increases

Operating Expense

Small adjustments up and down will be made in different line items

Equipment Replacement

\$21,000 for a new van

Mr. Fortin said the BPW will remove Article 34 (Tinkham Lane Well) if the Finance Committee transfers the money to repair the pump and well shaft.

Linda Schick presented the Sewer Department budget (#39).

Salary & Wages

1% increase

Steps up - \$19,000

Operating Budget

Down overall 4%

Ms. Schick said they plan on switching \$33,400 from Contractor Assistance to Contracted Services. The Electric Power request is down \$42,000 due to the digester. The following articles were discussed:

Article 16 – Sewer System Rehabilitation: \$425,000

Article 19 – South Street/Taber Street Pump Station Repairs: \$575,000

Article 12 – Contract Amendment with Mattapoisett to sell 10% of the plant for approximately \$750,000; a decision by Mattapoisett is pending.

The Board of Public Works left at 6:50pm.

SCHOOL DEPARTMENT BUDGET

At 6:50pm, the Board met with the School Department. Present were Superintendent Dr. Robert Baldwin, Chairman Pamela Kuechler, and Vice-Chairman David Gonsalves.

Dr. Baldwin explained the department's \$18,348,083 budget request.

Salary & Wages

Just under 3% increase

Mr. Haworth requested information on Acushnet students currently enrolled at the high school. Dr. Baldwin explained that more high school students are coming from Acushnet every year. Approximately 21 Acushnet students will graduate this year and 40-45 more will be enrolling in the fall.

Student Enrollment Totals

Fairhaven High School:	657
Hastings Middle School:	410
Wood School:	483
East Fairhaven School:	441

The following article was discussed:

Article 27 – Hastings Middle School Floor Replacement, first phase for the hallways and cafeteria: \$135,811

The School Department left at 7:22pm.

The next Budget Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 5, 2014 at 5:30pm

Mr. Espindola motioned to adjourn at 7:30pm. Mr. Haworth seconded. Vote was unanimous (3-0).

Respectfully,

Jeffrey Osuch

Executive Secretary
Board of Selectmen