

SELECTBOARD BUDGET MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2020 at 4:00-5:45 PM

Those present in person: Mike Hogan, Ruth Goodrich, Betty Ritter, Michelle Leclerc; Via Zoom: Karly Schmitt, Frank Kampf, Gary Gulka, Janet Westervelt, Jeanne Johnson, Chuck Talbert, Jessica North, Cameron North, Mary Saggerson, Paul Wade, Lori Augustyniak, Jan Westervelt, Roman Kokodyniak

1. Call meeting to order. 4:10
2. Approve Agenda A motion was made by Mike with a second by Matt. Agenda was approved.
3. Public Comment – there was no public comment.
4. Preliminary Budget Process for 2020-21 Budget - We are waiting for some final information.
5. Special Appropriations 4:05 p.m. Janet Westervelt asked that we appropriate the full amount that Central Vermont Home Health. Cecilia Gulka asked that we should revise the procedure for the policies for appropriations. Gary is here to advocate for the Friends of the Winooski in the amount of \$300.00. Roman I would like to add and echo what Gary has said. He recommended that we have the Town residents to review. Mike would like to have Fred review these. All of them seem to be worthy. Roman wanted to make a point is that the impact on the communities from regional services and would like to support these services.
6. Utility Partners – regarding contract – 4:30 p.m. – deferred until November 24.
7. Recreation Department 5:00 p.m. – They are asking for \$10,000.00 for the coming year. Chuck did go over the budget and Jessica joined in and discussed other activities to take the place of basketball if that is cancelled. Ruth thought the ice rink would be a good activity and we could possibly make a decision to open the Common for the ice rink. We need to check on this before a final decision. Chuck would like to add one more thing: the rec committee does not have much lead way. Ruth wanted to know how we can work together to improve communications. Jessica has started to submit time sheets. Jessica not just as a coordinator, but a mom it would be really terrible if we couldn't do things for the kids. We really want to support the kids and don't want to have to take things away from the kids. Susie Socks wants to find someone to take over or would like to be somewhat compensated. Ruth suggested that perhaps the parents could do some volunteer. We want to look at volunteer and some fund raising. Jessica said she would look over this. Susie said she is looking for someone to help in the last two years. School students would be someone to help with the ice rink. Betty suggested that they contact Jeanne for the Chronicle regarding volunteers. Matt thought we should try to have parents volunteer for these rec functions.
8. CCA – 5:15 p.m. – They have two requests one for the Chronicle and one for the CCA. Ruth stated that we appropriated \$10,000 from last year. Lori – did have a work slowdown in the pandemic. There was planning for the 4th of July and the Fall Foilage until it was shut down. We have been working with a grant for USDA of how we are to work better with agriculture. We are working with a consultant for the brown building. Lori is working with the Chronicle and how it has gone out during the year. Mike wanted to know if they were considering the e-Chronicle. This will be discussed on the subject of the Chronicle. They worked with 11 agencies throughout the year and possibly working to get some relief. Lori hosted the weekly conference call and found that it was not being used and it has turned into a meeting with Jenn from emergency management and has taken on new roll of people moving here. Planning to have a Cabot Marketing Association as a place to live and visit and sell their wares. Looking for answers ASAP.

Paul then discussed the Chronicle – consider the best way to reach all the people. And the only way was to send a paper copy. It costs around \$2,200, if an e-chronicle it would cost \$1,500. They are planning on mailing out 9 issues would be around \$19,000 and they are asking \$15,000. There are 1,900 are printed. Monthly issues would be better than every other month. Jeanne felt that 9 issues are better than no issues. Ruth wanted to know about how many go out to other communities – Jeanne said about 400 (which is included in the 1,900 printed copies). They try to take care of the postage of \$.08 per copy along with the printer pricing getting down. Ruth wanted to know how many people really want the Chronicle? Jeanne – when it was on the ballot they voted to have it. Perhaps a postcard or someway to let the people know. Reducing the amount of copies may be a savings. What would it cost for 12 issues - would be around \$26,000. Cecilia felt that eliminating copies to other towns, the people who advertise would want to get it out to other people. Matt thought it was a good thing, but thought an ad in the paper would be good to see who is interested in receiving the paper.
9. Lister's - 5:30 p.m. She felt they could eliminate IAEO membership and perhaps some savings on budget. Would like to reduce it to \$5,360 instead of \$6,360.
10. Other business – there was no other business.
11. Adjourn - Mike motioned that we adjourn with a second by Matt, motion carried. We adjourned at 5:43 p.m.

Respectfully,
Betty Ritter, Cabot Town Clerk/Treasurer