



**THE TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE
JOINT BOARD OF FINANCE /
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2019
6:00 PM**

A Joint Board of Finance / Board of Selectmen Meeting for the Town of Woodbridge was held in the Central Meeting Room at the Town Hall, Woodbridge, Connecticut on Tuesday, January 22, 2019 at 6:00 pm

PRESENT BOARD OF FINANCE:

Chairman, Matthew Giglietti; Vice Chairman, Sandy Stein
Tom Handler; Tom Kenefick; Paul Kuriakose (6:05);
Andrew Pels

PRESENT BOARD OF SELECTMEN:

First Selectman, Beth Heller; Joseph Crisco; Joseph Dey;
David Lober;

ALSO PRESENT:

Administrative Officer / Director of Finance, Anthony Genovese;
Budget Analyst / Payroll & Benefits Administrator, Karen Crosby

Prior to the start of the budget presentations, First Selectman Beth Heller took the opportunity to thank all first responders with the storm over the weekend. She also thanked the Human Services staff who opened the emergency shelter. Beth thanked the JCC for opening the facility to residents for warming, charging electronics and warm showers. She also thanked the residents of Woodbridge who opened their homes to their neighbors who were without power.

POLICE

Chief Frank Cappiello and Deputy Chief Ray Stuart presented the Police Department budget request of \$3,107,345 which represents an increase of 2.68%

With New haven and Waterbury being close, Woodbridge has had an upsurge of burglaries and stolen cars. With the banks in Town and being close to the Merit Parkway they have quick getaways. Last April there was a homicide in town and there were a few arrests recently. All police personnel are certified. Despite the reduction in staffing they are getting the job done. The department currently budgeted for eighteen officers, five sergeants, the Chief, and Deputy Chief. The department expects to be fully staffed with the hiring of an officer that will be starting on February 4th.

Increases: Police OT – increase due to historic numbers. Due to the agreement since the elimination of the lieutenant position, the sergeant would not be part of the minimum shift. If they go below minimum a police officer will get voluntary overtime to keep to the minimum staffing for the shift.

David Lober asked the Chief and Deputy Chief about staffing levels and the number of officers. The Chief will provide the South Central Criminal Justice Management and Staffing Report from 2002. There was discussion on having another report done for the department.

Legal Ads – they are required to place legal ads and have to use the NH Register and that is expensive

Tax Collector

Pat Crisco presented a budget request of \$153,662 which is a 3.94% increase over FY19.

Pat has an increase in the postage line due to a rate increase

Matt asked if there are any major tax delinquencies that she is going after. Pat stated that there are a few that are going to foreclosure.

Taxes are due by February 1st and the office will be open on Saturday, January 26th from 9-12 and Friday, February 1st the office will be open until 7:00 pm.

Assessor

Betsy Quist presented a budget request of \$172,581 which is an increase of 2.21%
Car allowance increased due to revaluation

Also a \$25,000 capital budget request for revaluation project

Board of Assessment Appeals

Betsy presented a budget request of \$3,600 in increase of 140%. This is due to revaluation. The reval will be complete on 1/31/2020 for the 10/1/2019 Grand List.

DPW

Warren Connors presented his department budget request of \$1,419,621 which is an increase of 1.09%

The department is looking to replace a mechanic that has left with someone who can help with the mechanic work and also help the crew with other work.

Salt needs to go out to bid and he used the pricing we have this year for request for next year.

The rentals equipment line takes care of tree work. Warren has been using 4 vendors this year and it is a struggle to get them here to do the work. Matt asked about the trees the UI is taking care of. Warren explained that they take care of the trees near wires and the Town has to take care of the other side of the street and also have the diseased trees to take care of. He identifies the trees through resident calls and as he is driving the roads in Town he identifies those that are dead or dying and need to be taken down.

Waste Management

Warren presented a budget request of \$501,624 which is a .25% increase. They are diligently working on preparing for the installation of the scale. Residents coming with household waste will not be charged. Residents bringing in demolition material will be weighed. There was discussion on the process of vehicles entering the transfer station.

Conservation

Tony Genovese reviewed the budget request of \$9,700 which is an increase of 977.78%. The biggest increase is the \$8,000 for to hire a professional service to assess property as it becomes available.

Town Clerk

Stephanie Ciarleglio presented a request of \$225,868 which is an increase of .66%. She will be going over budget this year with election supplies. Also, legal ads have gotten very expensive. Woodbridge Town News only comes out every three weeks and sometimes it she is not able to use that paper she has to put the ad in the Register for much more money. The Secretary of State's office has decided they want to invest in early voting. She doesn't know if it will be this year or next year and she didn't put anything in the budget request.

Government Access TV

Pua Ford presented a budget request of \$26,962 which is an increase of 4.84%

Pua reported that they started using interns from Southern and it was fun. They tend to go away after graduation. They will keep pursuing grants to purchase equipment. She would like to get another four microphones for sound improvement and she may be able to purchase them with her budget.

EDC

Jody Elant presented the EDC request of \$2,350 which is a decrease of 38.16%. The Commission is hoping to do a map of businesses in Woodbridge. This is a bare bones budget that is being requested. David asked if the EDC is associated with the Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce. Jody stated that they are not a member of the New Haven Chamber of Commerce. There is a large fee to belong to the Chamber of Commerce. They do have a member of the Commission who is the Executive Director of the New Haven Manufacturing Association.

The Center

Tony presented a budget request of \$84,000 and this is a decrease of .59%. This budget is mostly utilities.

Former Fire Station

Tony presented the budget request of \$7,800 which is the same as the current budget. This is also basically utilities.

CCW

Tony presented a budget request of \$61,050 which is a decrease of 13.40%. Tony stated that there has been thought of abandoning the building. There would be utility savings of about \$40,000 but would have to be insured as a vacant building which is higher than the current insurance coverage. The Town would have to work with the building official and the fire marshal. There are some things to consider such as security and outdoor lighting. Buildings tend to deteriorate more quickly with no heat. The request is to keep the building as is right now.

Approved by Board of Finance on March 7, 2019

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Tom Kenefick stated that if we abandon it there will be animals getting in and people getting in. At some point the building will need to be demolished, especially if the current proposals for the property is defeated.

EMS

Tony presented a budget request of \$304,781; an increase of .31%. The contract with AMR is up and will be negotiation. There was no increase put in the budget.

The meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.