THE TOWN OF WOODBRIDGE
JOINT BOARD OF FINANCE / BOARD OF
SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2020

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 28, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

BOF PRESENT: Chairman, Matthew Giglietti; Vice Chairman, Paul Kuriakose; Susan Jacobs Tom Handler; Tom Kenefick; Ellen Scalettar

BOS PRESENT: First Selectmen, Beth Heller; Joseph Crisco; Joseph Dey; Dwight Rowland; Sandy Stein

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

Chairman of the Board of Finance, Matthew Giglietti, called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

WOODBRIDGE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Superintendent Bob Gilbert presented a budget request of $15,317,523 which represents an increase of .76%. The budget presentation is attached.

Tom Kenefick thanked and applauded Bob for the budget request that the Board has presented. Bob left copies of a report with some statistical information on student data for the Boards.

HUMAN SERVICES

Susan Davidson and Jeanette Glicksman (Interim Director of Human Services) presented a budget request of $488,978 which represents an increase of 4.09%.

The department continues to see an increase in the number of households being served. They are requesting the Town of Bethany to pay more towards the administrative costs of the programs.

Susan spoke to the completion of the Woodbridge Center project which is in the Building Maintenance Capital budget and asked that the request be funded by the Boards during this budget.

Jeanette stated that the vehicle purchase in their capital budget request is sorely needed. This vehicle is used for those residents that need to go to Hamden, North Haven, and Wallingford. The senior bus cannot access the parkway.
LIBRARY

Eric Werthmann and Jeanette Glicksman (Chairman of the Library Commission) presented a budget request of $837,224 which is an increase of 3.04%. Mostly salary related.

Eric distributed a handout with Library statistics (attached).

Within the next month they will be unveiling a new website. Matt asked how the library building is doing. Eric stated that the humidity problem has been addressed and is much better and is satisfactory for the present time. The elevator is working well now. The Building Maintenance department has been wonderful. The building is twenty-one years old and some of the furniture and carpeting need to be replaced and those requests are in the outlying years in the capital budget.

Sandy asked Eric to share with the Board what the plan is when the Assistant Director retires. Eric stated that Lynn Serra is the Assistant Director, Head of Technical Services and Business Manager is retiring after twenty years. It will be difficult to replace her. The plan is to eliminate the assistant director position and split the duties of the technical services position and also the business manager position.

RECREATION

John Adamovich and Jim Franco were in attendance to present a budget request of $622,737, an increase of 7.80%. John stated that they had to increase their request based on the increase of minimum wage. Last year the department came in with a zero increase budget and was cut $2,000. John stated that he feels that if a department comes in at a zero budget, they should not be hammered with a cut.

The increase this year is $40,654 of that $35,109 was due to minimum wage, union wages were another $4,800. The final increase of $688 has an increase of $663 for the summer camp director and assistant director. They have increased fees by 4%.

John reported that the skating rink has opened on January 20th. The rink will accommodate 70 to 80 skaters. Matt asked John about the $3,000 revenue for the Fitness Center. John stated that we lose some money but it is good for the senior population that uses the fitness center. They are going to combine the Pool/Fitness center memberships at a cost of $50 rather than just the fitness center for $25.

PUBLIC WORKS

Warren Connors presented a budget request of $1,511,557 which is an increase of $8.73%. Warren is proposing a reduction of 1 position in the department.

He reported that line painting (center line only) has increased dramatically (paint price)

He has been informed that Catch Basin Cleaning has also increased.
There are not a lot of changes but a few line items are significant. Historically Warren over extends his tree work budget. He currently has 65 trees that need to be addressed. There are really no other changes in the budget. He did put in a request for seasonal employees. He may or may not use them but the request is there.

**WASTE MANAGEMENT**
Warren presented a budget request of $583,333 for an increase of 12.79%. The good thing is that with the installation of the scale, there will be approximately $30,000 in revenue.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT**
Sean Rowland and Elias Alexiades presented a budget request of $1,083,244, an increase of 32.24%. Sean handed out some fire call statistics to the Boards (attached). The handout showed number calls and number of hours per calendar year.

**BOARD OF FINANCE**
Tony Genovese presented a budget request of $227,145 which represents a decrease of 47.36%.

**EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**
Tony Genovese presented a budget request of $4,790,150 which represents an increase of 4.94%.

**DEBT SERVICE**
Tony Genovese presented a budget request of $2,843,611 which is an increase of .87%.
Matt stated that the Boards have a daunting task ahead of them with this budget and the decrease in the Grand List. If we keep the budget increase at zero, there will still be a mill rate increase.

**REVENUE**
Moving forward, most revenues are the same as last year. We don’t know what is going to happen in Hartford, so I left them the same as last year. There are some fees suggested by Andy Rizzo for the Building Department that will have to be added to the revenue projections. At the February Board of Selectmen meeting there will be a presentation on the Transfer Station. There are some revenue options at the Transfer Station if the Board of Selectmen chooses to do so. The Amity surplus funds are not included in this revenue. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

*Karen Crosby*

Karen Crosby  
Budget Analyst  
Payroll & Benefits Administrator