­ Shelburne Finance Committee Meeting

Monday March 27, 2023, 5:30 pm

Shelburne Fire Station

18 Little Mohawk Road, Shelburne

Minutes

Call to order: Called to order at 5:37 pm by Deb Andrew. Those present include, Finance Committee members, Todd Dubreuil, Terri Mitchell, and Matt Popoli, Community Members, Jay Readinger and Jim Burnham.

Joined the Select Board via Zoom for the budget presentations from the Police Department and the Highway Department.

* Chief of Police, Greg Bardwell, presented the Police Department budget request for FY 2024. There were two options on the request, a Stand Alone Budget, request B, and the Shared Service Budget with Buckland, request C. Chief Bardwell explained the difference between the requests and how they were calculated. With the recently passed Police Reform Act, the budget is higher than in prior years. A difference between the two options is personnel costs. Salaries are higher. Finance Committee asked if salaries were adequate to retain the officers, as the Town is making a considerable investment in the training of the Officers, retention is important. Chief Bardwell recommends that the Town choose request C, the Shared Service Budget. After sharing the costs with Buckland, it will be a less costly option for the Town of Shelburne.
* Highway Superintendent Mark Shippee presented the Highway Department budget request. The request reflected a 4% increase in salaries. The biggest increase was for Diesel Fuel which is justifiable due to the fluctuating diesel costs. Mark also submitted two capital requests. One for a 3 point hitch PTO Blower used to clear ditches of leaves and debris in the fall. This would replace an obsolete impeller style blower. The other, a Trailer Mounted Leaf/Debris Loader used to suck up leaves and debris. No further questions were asked by the Finance Committee or Select Board.

The presentations ended and the Finance Committee resumed our regular meeting.

1. Old Business:

* Discussed the budget requests of the Town Boards and Departments. The Committee discussed procedures for final review and reporting of the Committees recommendation or not recommend to the Select Board. Agreed to meet on April 10, 2023 to finalize recommendations and report to the Select Board.
* Deb Andrew advised the Committee that she is having a knee replacement in early April and plans to step down from the committee when her term is up. We need to reorganize the duties of the Committee and appoint a Chairman.
* Discussed further preparations for the proposed April 21, 2023 meeting with the Select Board, School Committee Representatives, superintendent, and Business Administrator. Need check with the Town Administrator for Select Board availability and once confirmed, send out invitations to all others.

2. Other Issues not anticipated 48 hours before the meeting: None

3. Next Meeting: Monday, April 10, 2023, @ 6:00 pm.

4. Motion to Adjourn by Todd Dubreuil, seconded by Matt Popoli. All in favor. Adjournment at 7:45 pm.