

# Budget Committee Record of Meeting March 5, 2024 Windsor Town Office

# Members Attending:

Tom Reed, Jason Ready, Richard Gray, Ronald Brann, Moira Teekema, Joe Bradbury Kimberly Hutchinson – arrived at 6:34pm

# Public Attending:

Dennis Strout, Kevin Ready

Ray Bates - Chairman of the Selectboard - Liaison

Theresa Haskell - Town Manager in attendance as representative of Selectboard

Call to order - Theresa Haskell

Review of Budget Committee Ordinance for the Town of Windsor. June 20, 2007 (revised June, 10, 2015).

# APPOINTMENTS:

Jason Ready – Chair Vote: 5-0-1

Abstained - Jason Ready

Richard Gray – co-Chair Vote: 5-0-1

Abstained – Richard Gray

Moira Teekema – Secretary Vote: 5-0-1

Abstained – Moira Teekema

## MUNICIPAL BUDGET

# **Presentation of Select Board Approved Budget**

Town Manager – Theresa Haskell

Presented general summary with highlighted changes. 24/25 Budget Packet.

Fire/Rescue presentations discussed first.

# Windsor Volunteer Fire Department Budget Request for FY2025

Packets and information presented by Kevin Ready Fire Safety Capital Reserve Fund: increase to \$50,000

Proposed increase is for replacement of:

SCBA bottles: \$1000 SCBA masks: \$500 SCBA airpacks: \$7000

# Windsor Volunteer Fire Department Capital Investment Plan as of 2/4/2024

Balance as of 9/30/2023 for FY 2024 from Capital Investment Funds: \$86,727

Proposed Increase FY2025: \$128,227

Investment plan from FY2024 – FY2040 presented for future costs and maintenance.

## Windsor Volunteer Fire Department Capital Projects

Document presented to Budget Committee with all future replacement of equipment and apparatus.

Coming down from State Government soon:

No apparatus over 25yrs will be allowed.

SCBA tanks cannot be over 15yrs.

Regulations are still in deliberation, but if approved all fire/rescue across the state must implement this within 24 months. New Training as well. Must have FF1 and FF2 certified on staff. To fund the 6 full-time 24hr shift fire fighters will be over \$1,000,000.

# Windsor Rescue Budget Request for FY2025

Presented by Kevin Ready on behalf of Ray Chavarie.

No increase from FY2024

Only discussed request was for a Thumper. Approx. cost is \$20,000. Ray Chavarie will be reviewing and presenting estimates in the future. This can be funded from Rescue Reserve Fund.

Proposal letter for a New Digital Sign at Fire/Rescue Station. Received a quote from an area business that specializes in designing and building LED message signs. Double-sided illuminated sign, double-sided color LED message sign, labor, supplies and installation for \$23,365. Separate from entire project budget. A separate warrant article proposed by Selectboard to fund the entire project in the amount of \$23,365 to be presented at Town Meeting.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY/ANIMAL CONTROL**

Wages/Saleries - \$315 - 0.63%

a) Animal Control Officer - \$315 wage increase

# Public Safety Professional and Contracted Services - \$27,885 - 14.30%

- a) Delta Ambulance Service \$26,000 contracted price increase. Contract not presented or finalized, but amount has been in discussion.
- b) PSAP/Dispatch Services \$1,570 contracted price increase.

SUBTOTAL: \$222,825, ↑14.30%

Motion: Joe Bradbury Second: Ronald Brann

VOTE: 6-0-1

Abstain – Jason Ready

# RESERVE FUND APPROPRIATION

Major Road Construction - \$12,500 - 2.80%

a) \$30,000 to help with the purchase of the new Public Works Plow Truck and will be a one time reduction. Will need to increase back to \$300,000 next year

Computer System Reserve - \$500 increase for costs of purchasing new equipment

**Fire Safety Capital Reserve** - \$55,000, needed to increase this an additional \$25,000 to bring up to \$50,000 per year just to keep up with the cost of trucks, plus an additional \$30,000 for a one-time purchase for the Public Works Plow Truck #9 out completely.

**Document Preservation - -**\$3000 reduction. Not needed this year.

**Revaluation/New Tax Maps** - -\$40,000 reduction. Already have the funds required to complete paying for revaluation.

**Fire Station Building Reserve** - \$15,000 increase for fixing driveway with new pavement. Assessed at 4000sq ft to repave for FY2025. Can be moved to FY2026.

SUBTOTAL: \$458,500, ↑2.80%

Motion: Moira Teekema Second: Ronald Brann

Discussion: Rick Gray – compost initiative update

Also per Theresa Haskell - with Revaluation this should bring up Utilities value. Utilities - MNG and CMP pay 51% of town taxes. Currently at 77% valuation, will be increasing to 100%. NEEC – added new money to taxes for project.

**VOTE: 7-0-0** 

#### **ADMINISTRATIONS**

#### Administration -\$42,623 - 9.35%

Possibility of quote for new IT contractor. New computer and software installation for Assessors.

#### Major increases:

# Wages/Paid Family Medical Leave/Retirement Match/FICA

\$9,533 – 3.30% (3% COLA with up to 2% merit)

# Professional and Contracted Services - \$17,465 - 47.27%

- a) Assessors Agent up \$9,540 new company with new contract
- b) Auditing Services up \$7,725 new company with new contract

# Equipment Leasing and Maintenance - \$11,240 - 40.65%

- a) Harris Computer/Trio Software up \$8,500 installation of Trio Web from Sequel with \$3,995 one-time
- b) Computer Service Contract up \$2,740 needed for 10 additional hours to contract.

# Office Supplies - \$1,000 - 11.30%

a) Change locks

**SUBTOTAL:** \$498,095 - ↑9.35%

Motion: Ronald Brann Second: Joe Bradbury

**VOTE: 7-0-0** 

# **ELECTIONS & TOWN MEETINGS**

Security/Traffic Control/Misc. \$2,100 - needed for security and traffic control during voting when school is in

session. Required by Windsor School.

Paid Family Medical Leave and FICA increases

**SUBTOTAL:** \$19,285 - ↑13.37%

Motion: Richard Gray Second: Ronald Brann

**VOTE: 7-0-0** 

#### ABATEMENTS/WRITE-OFFS

Will need this for any abatement from revaluation of corrections/errors.

**SUBTOTAL:** \$30,000 - ↑400%

Motion: Richard Gray Second: Joe Bradbury

**VOTE: 7-0-0** 

# **CEMETERY**

Cemetery mowing contract increase – up \$2,605 per new contracted

Discussion for separate warrant article for Dyer Hill trees removal - \$14,500 approx. Sending out for bids. Will take from Interest funds.

SUBTOTAL: \$43,345 - ↑7.37%

Motion: Moira Teekema Second: Ronald Brann

**VOTE: 7-0-0** 

#### PLANNING & CODE ENFORCEMENT

# Wages and Salaries - \$4,120 - 11.77%

- a) Code Enforcement Officer and Assist. CEO/LPI/E-911 \$2,240 raise
- b) Planning Board Secretary \$500 May need to pay someone to take minutes.
- c) Plumbing Inspector \$1,000 increase for plumbing permit applications

# Professional Development/Education - \$2,000 - 500%

a) For the purchase of a new computer, monitor, printer and supplies for Code Enforcement Officer's office.

SUBTOTAL: \$42,210 - ↑18.27%

Motion: Tom Reed

Second: Ronald Brann

**VOTE: 7-0-0** 

## **GENERAL ASSISTANCE**

No change.

SUBTOTAL: \$6000.00 Motion: Richard Gray Second: Joe Bradbury

**VOTE: 7-0-0** 

#### **TOWN HALL**

Increased costs for all repairs, maintenance and utilities

**SUBTOTAL: 35,165 - ↑13.07%** 

Motion: Moira Teekema Second: Richard Gray

**VOTE: 7-0-0** 

## **PUBLIC WORKS & PUBLIC WORKS GARAGE**

Public Works Wages and Salaries - \$15,120

a) Road Supervisor and Year Round Drivers/Laborers - \$11,770, 3% COLA, up to 2% merit

# Public Works Professional and Contracted Services - \$4,200 - ↑27.10%

a) Roadside Mowing - \$3,700 increase in an additional mile of roadside tree trimming

# Public Works Vehicle Maintenance - \$10,000 - ↑9.36%

- a) Truck #5 \$2,000
- b) Truck #8 \$2,000
- c) Truck #9 \$5,000 New truck service and labor
- d) Backhoe \$4,000 New rear tires

## Public Works Supplies - \$8,000 - ↑6.84%

- a) Tools/Equipment \$5,000 for new Pressure Washer Ronald Brann will be looking into another option
- b) Traffic Control Signs \$1,000 for new signs
- c) Culverts \$2,000 increased pricing

## Road Maintenance and Construction - \$5,000 - ↑8.33%

a) Tree Removal - \$5,000 increase for additional trees and costs

SUBTOTAL: \$638,090 - ↑7.17%

Motion: Moira Teekema Second: Ronald Brann

VOTE: 6-1-0

Opposed – Richard Gray

#### TRANSFER STATION

Transfer Station Professional and Contracted Services - \$17,100 - ↑25.99%

- a) Tipping Fees \$10,000 additional fees for increased use
- b) Transportation \$5,000 alongside additional tipping fees for more transportation

Transfer Station Utilities - \$570 - ↑19.45%

- a) Phone \$270 increased costs for installing a long distance line to use for outbound calls for services Maintenance/Misc. \$2,600 ↑51.99
  - a) Maintenance/Supplies/Misc \$2,000 increase in routine maintenance and supply pricing
- b) Mowing/Bush Hogging/ Transfer Station Cap \$600 needs to be in this fund and not Public Works

**SUBTOTAL:** \$165,656 - ↑15.53%

Motion: Richard Gray Second: Ronald Brann

Discussion: Richard Gray suggested rolling trash and recycling 100% into taxes

**VOTE: 7-0-0** 

# **CAPITAL EXPENDITURES & LONG TERM DEBT**

SUBTOTAL CAP. EXP. (LONG TERM DEBT): \$60,000 - ↓3.23

Motion: Tom Reed Second: Richard Gray

VOTE: 7-0-0

#### MMA/RMS

Unemplyment Compensation – \$400 increase Workers Compensation Insurance - \$1,500 increase Property and Casualty Insurance - \$3,000 for new truck

SUBTOTAL: \$49,800 - ↑10.96%

Motion: Ronald Brann Second: Richard Gray

VOTE: 7-0-0

# **CULTURAL & RECREATIONAL**

No change

SUBTOTAL: \$5,750 Motion: Tom Reed Second: Ronald Brann

**VOTE: 6-1-0** 

Opposed: Kim Hutchinson

## **OUTSIDE AGENCIES – 501C(3)**

2 Agencies did not send requests. New request from Whitefield Library.

**SUBTOTAL:** \$3,738 - ↓1.32%

Motion: Joe Bradbury Second: Ronald Brann

**VOTE: 6-1-0** 

Opposed: Kim Hutchinson

# **TOTAL MUNICIPAL BUDGET: \$2,278,459 - ↑9.06%**

Motion: Moira Teekema Second: Ronald Brann

**VOTE: 7-0-0** 

## **Additional Comments:**

Theresa Haskell stated that since Revenue Sharing was just received we should be able to vote next meeting, subject to Select Board approval.

Jason Ready - Adjournment @ 7:53pm

# **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

Tuesday March 19, 2023

Tuesday April 2, 2023 - subject to change

## Respectfully Submitted,

Moira Teekema Budget Committee Secretary