

## ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

6:30 PM

Virtual, via Zoom

Members present: Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles

Members absent: Brian Boyle, Ann Hurd

Call to order: Acting Chairman Lauer called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. The entire meeting can be viewed by going to:

[Advisory, Jan 11, 2022 - YouTube](#)

### Agenda Item #1: Town Moderator budget (114)

- The Advisory Committee reviewed the proposed Town Moderator budget of \$50.
- **MOTION:** Omid Gharony moved to approve the Town Moderator budget of \$50; seconded by Bill Nickles. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**

### Agenda Item #2: Agricultural Commission budget (179)

- No requested funding for FY2023 was identified. This agenda item was deferred pending confirmation of the Agricultural Commission's FY2023 request.

### Agenda Item #3: Animal Control budget (292)

- Phyllis Tower presented the proposed Animal Control budget.
- Total Wages reflected a COLA increase of \$514.
- Phyllis requested \$600 to reimburse the costs of an iPad and iPhone used for animal control calls.
- **MOTION:** Bill Nickles moved to approve the Animal Control budget as amended, for a total of \$22,604; seconded by Bob Guerriero. **VOTING IN FAVOR** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**

### Agenda Item #4: Town Accountant budget (135)

- Town Accountant Ninotchka Rogers presented the proposed Town Accountant budget.
- Total Wages reflected a COLA and step increase of \$4,260.
- Software support decreased by \$2,490 from last year, due to last year's one-time purchase of invoice scanning software.
- **MOTION:** Omid Gharony moved to approve the Town Accountant budget as presented, for a total of \$105,585; seconded by Bill Nickles. **VOTING IN FAVOR** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**

Agenda Item #5: Tree Warden budget (294)

- Mark Caisse presented the proposed Tree Warden budget.
- Salary reflected a COLA increase of \$111.
- Police detail reflected an increase of \$500 from last year due to increasing costs of police details.
- Tree trimming costs reflected an increase of \$13,000 from last year, due to both increased costs of fuel and tree trimming services as well as a backlog of additional tree trimming that needs to be done this year.
- Disposal costs reflected an increase of \$6,000 from last year, due to disposal cost increases from \$9/cu yd last year to \$14/cu yd this year.
- **MOTION:** Omid Gharony moved to approve the Tree Warden budget as presented, for a total of \$71,796; seconded by Bill Nickles. **VOTING IN FAVOR** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**

Agenda Item #6: DPW budgets (190, 293, 421, 422, 424, 423, 433, 440, 450, 491, 692)

- Randy Heglin presented several DPW-related proposed budgets.
- Town Buildings (190)
  - Town Buildings budget is level funded from last year.
  - **MOTION:** Bob Guerriero moved to approve the Town Buildings budget as presented, for a total of \$141,550; seconded by Omid Gharony. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**
- Traffic Lights (293)
  - Traffic Lights budget is level funded from last year.
  - **MOTION:** Bob Guerriero moved to approve the Traffic Lights budget as presented, for a total of \$1,800; seconded by Omid Gharony. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**
- Highway (421)
  - Wages and salary reflected step and COLA increases of \$54,023 over last year.
  - Gasoline funds were increased by \$3,000 to reflect increasing fuel costs.
  - All other Highway items are level funded from last year.
  - **MOTION:** Omid Gharony moved to approve the Highway budget as presented, for a total of \$916,606; seconded by Bill Nickles. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**
- Construction and Maintenance (422)
  - Construction and Maintenance budget is level funded from last year.
  - **MOTION:** Bill Nickles moved to approve the Construction and Maintenance budget as presented, for a total of \$209,100; seconded by Bob Guerriero. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**

- Street Lighting (424)
  - Street Lighting budget reflected an increase of \$800 over last year due to increasing electricity costs.
  - **MOTION:** Omid Gharony moved to approve the Street Lighting budget as presented, for a total of \$8,900; seconded by Bill Nickles. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**
- Snow and Ice (423)
  - Snow and Ice budget is level funded from last year.
  - **MOTION:** Bob Guerriero moved to approve the Snow and Ice budget as presented, for a total of \$180,000; seconded by Omid Gharony. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**
- Transfer Station (433)
  - Transfer Station budget reflected an increase of \$10,400 from last year for increase recycling processing and hauling.
  - **MOTION:** Bill Nickles moved to approve the Transfer Station budget as presented, for a total of \$238,882; seconded by Omid Gharony. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**
- Sewer (440)
  - Sewer budget reflected the addition of a new line item, Repairs, for \$1,000.
  - **MOTION:** Bill Nickles moved to approve the Sewer budget as presented, for a total of \$10,000; seconded by Bob Guerriero. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**
- Water (450)
  - Water budget reflected the addition of a new line item, Repairs, for \$1,000.
  - **MOTION:** Bob Guerriero moved to approve the Water budget as presented, for a total of \$6,000; seconded by Omid Gharony. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**
- Cemetery (491)
  - Cemetery budget is level funded from last year.
  - **MOTION:** Omid Gharony moved to approve the Cemetery budget as presented, for a total of \$8,000; seconded by Bob Guerriero. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**
- Memorial Day Celebration (692)
  - Memorial Day Celebration budget is level funded from last year.
  - **MOTION:** Omid Gharony moved to approve the Memorial Day Celebration budget as presented, for a total of \$2,800; seconded by Bill Nickles. **VOTING IN FAVOR:** Bob Guerriero, Omid Gharony, Craig Lauer, and Bill Nickles. **VOTED AND PASSED. UNANIMOUS (4-0).**

Agenda Item #7: Advisory Committee business

- The Committee reviewed the Capital Requests for this year, without discussion or elaboration.
- The Committee discussed a suggestion by Randy Heglin that the Town establish a building repair fund to cover unanticipated building repair expenses that might occur during the year, without the need to wait until Annual Town Meeting to approve every repair request.
  - The Committee noted that such a fund could not be carried over from year to year, but would need to be reinstated each year.
  - The Committee also noted that such a fund could only be used for unanticipated repair expenses, and not for preventative maintenance costs.
  - There was general agreement that a line item for building repairs could be added to the Advisory Committee Reserve Fund, which would meet the intent of this suggestion.
  - Discussion was tabled; no vote was taken.
- The next Advisory Committee meeting will take place on January 18, 2022.

Adjourn: Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM

Approved by the Advisory Committee