

## **ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

January 17, 2023

6:30

Virtual, via Zoom

Members present: Brian Boyle, Craig Lauer, Bob Guerriero, Greg Myers, Omid Gharony and Bill Nickles

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

[Bolton Access TV - Advisory Committee Meeting](#)

### Agenda Item #1: Veterans Agent Budget

- Veterans' agent was not able to make the meeting as he was attending a funeral for a veteran.
- A review of the actuals YTD shows that the budget is on track.
- Level funding of \$40,594.
- Motion to approve Veterans Budget by Craig Lauer, seconded by Bob Guerriero;  
**VOTED AND PASSED UNANIMOUS (5-0).**

### Agenda Item #2: Historical Commission

- Bob Busch is presenting the budget.
- Level funded for \$6,150.
- Budget is going towards the payment of the consultant for the historical district and two additional memorials, Parson's Park and the old fire station.
- The following year the majority of the budget will be used to put up signs for the historical district.
- A question was asked about the scope of work for the consultant over the last couple of years. Bob Busch provided a statement of work to Don Lowe.
- Motion to approve Historical Commission budget by Craig Lauer, seconded by Bob Guerriero; **VOTED AND PASSED UNANIMOUS (6-0).**

### Agenda Item #3: Fire Department / EMS

- Chief Legendre presented the budget.
- Fire Chief salary is under contract.
- Wages – Inspections is for the off duty inspector that needs to be called in when one is not on call.
- Wages – Permanent Firefighter has step and COLA and is up 6%.
- Wages – Firefighters is up 8% and includes many items and the increase reflects in part a call volume increase of 24%. Brian Boyle asked if going forward we could receive more granular detail on what is included in that line item. Chief Legendre provided more detail on what is included in that line item.
- Cadet program is level funded and will be spent in the spring of this fiscal year.

- Purchase and services are mostly for mandatory testing of equipment such as hoses and pumps.
- Decrease in ALS services but it needs to be maintained due to need.
- Coastal billing did increase and will increase when call volume goes up.
- Repairs level funded and Chief Legendre stated that we are in a good position with repairs.
- Operating supplies level funded and is disposable medical supplies.
- Gas cost has gone up due to increase in prices and increased use of the vehicles going to surrounding towns.
- Diesel is a locked in price under the state contract.
- Uniforms increase is reflective of the purchase of one set of protective gear.
- Received \$95k in grants for equipment.
- Question on fire pond maintenance and Chief Legendre said that the fire pond maintenance will be done in the spring.
- Should not see an issue with major repairs.
- Chief Legendre discussed his plans to add three additional firefighters over time to provide 24 / 7 coverage and maintain call response time and resources available.
- Discussion on gas prices and budgeting. Changing budget for gas to \$10,000 and diesel to \$3,000.
- Motion to approve Fire / EMS budget by Craig Lauer, seconded by Bob Guerriero;  
**VOTED AND PASSED UNANIMOUS (6-0).**

Agenda Item #4: Fire Department / EMS Capital requests.

- New Fire engine is on the capital request with a cost of \$950k.
- The engine would be available in 2025 and will be replacing an engine that will be 30 years old at the time of replacement.
- Due to the delay in build out and the desire to lock in the price, Chief Legendre is putting this request on this next years' capital request.
- Chief Legendre said he would investigate the used engine market for replacement. Will investigate vehicles 2016 or later.
- Next vehicle to be replaced would not be until 2037.
- Also, looking to replace the Tahoe due to a defect in the 2010 Tahoe. This will be done out of the ALS account and have no impact on the town.

Agenda Item #5: Committee business

- Discussion on overall heating / electric / fuel costs for upcoming budget. The decision is to make the following adjustments for all departments but reserve the ability to adjust the baseline on a case-by-case basis:
  - Electric – increase the FY22 Actuals by 25%
  - Heating – increase the FY23 Budget by 25%
  - Fuel – increase the FY23 Budget by 20%
- Discussion on grants and the mechanism in which the town seeks grants.
- Next meeting three members of the school committee will be present.
- Moved to adjourn at 7:48. **VOTED AND PASSED UNANIMOUS (6-0).**

Approved by the Advisory Committee