

ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 21st, 2020

6:30 PM

Town Hall – Selectmen's Meeting Room

AK
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JC
Approved
1/28/2020

Called to order 6:30pm; ended at 8:08pm. The entire meeting can be viewed by going to:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vyVw9Sdivco>

Agenda items for this meeting focused on detailed review and discussion of departmental budgets for Veterans Services, the Agricultural Committee, the Historical Commission, Emergency Management, Dispatch, Public Safety, and the Police Department:

- Review of Veterans Services budget. The Veterans Benefits request was reduced from \$36,000 to \$33,000; the Veterans Day celebration budget was increased to \$2,000. The overall budget was approved unanimously for a new total of \$40,327.50.
- Review of Agricultural Committee budget; same as that submitted over the last few years. Last year's funding was used to purchase agricultural books and support promotion through the public library on farming and agriculture as well as participation in an agriculturally-focused series of lectures and a tent at the Bolton fair. Budget unanimously approved as requested.
- Review of Historical Commission budget; same as last year. Hoping to start new historic district which has total cost set at \$10,000 and may take several years to complete (estimated per budget to be split over 3 years). Supplies cost decreased due to investment in training members on how to do some maintenance themselves rather than hire a consultant. Budget approved unanimously at \$6,150.
 - Question raised by committee chair about whether town insurance would cover damage to walls, signs and posts caused by hit and run incidents. Also discussed whether DOT/public works could assist in some repair work; more follow up on this will be needed.
- Emergency Management budget reviewed; Contains only one line item that is not anticipated to change year to year and may decrease over time. Approved unanimously as requested.
- Dispatch budget reviewed; held for further discussion before approval decision can be made.
- Public Safety building budget reviewed; generally level funded. Questioned whether heating line item is underestimated due to this year's budget almost being exhausted

already. Determined to leave as is for now but may need to revisit later. Budget approved unanimously as requested.

- Police Department budget reviewed; can expect changes due to status of last round of contract negotiations still in process and new contract negotiation to begin. Budget request includes funding for a pursuit-rated hybrid vehicle. Budget approved unanimously as requested.
- Upcoming meetings/misc.:
 - Advisory meeting next week to start at 6pm.
 - May need to reschedule time for Minuteman budget review due to being scheduled for school vacation week.
 - Advisory meeting will be moved from 2/25 to 2/26 for that week only.