TOWN OF DERRY

Town Council Derry Municipal Center

April 22, 2014 Tuesday - 7:00 PM

Budget Session Review FY 2015

Roll call: Councilors Cardon, Fischer, Fairbanks, Katsakiores, Dimmock, Bourdon and Chairman Osborne

Staff Present: Larry Budreau, Chief Klauber, Chris Martin, Debbie Roy, Doug Rathburn, John Goldman

Frank Childs, Janice Mobsby and Mark Fleischer - Finance

Chairman Osborne asked the Council if they had any input they would like to share before beginning this evening's budget session.

Councilor Fischer stated the next major topic that is a priority is the Town Administrator process. He has drafted a proposal, he would like the councilors to review and the next time they meet this can be discussed.

Councilor Fairbanks has thought over some of the issues that were discussed regarding lowering the tax rate. There are two issues combined that equal \$286,000 that impact the tax rate which are the Taylor Library and the possible increase in the Veterans Credit. He gave pros & cons of each and listed the possible emotional links vs. financial impacts. He would like to take an unofficial poll with four options:

- 1. Fund both at a cost of \$286,000
- 2. Increase the Veterans Credit only
- 3. Fund Taylor Library only
- 4. Increase the Veterans Credit and partially fund Taylor Library

Responses were:

Councilor Katsakiores - no input at this time

Councilor Dimmock - Veterans Credit

Councilor Bourdon – choose both as he is torn.

Councilor Cardon – supports Taylor Library and feels the Veterans credit is a separate issue.

Councilor Fischer - needs to consider all options

Councilor Fairbanks - Veterans Credit

Councilor Osborne – governing is about making hard decisions. He would not fund the library.

Cable

Debbie Roy gave an overview of what public access CTV is and how important it is to the community. She listed some of the programs that are shown on the channels. Chris Martin reviewed a major upgrade over the last year. The highlights of this budget are account #341 for internet and a new item for \$800 per year for weather info and a capital item for a broadcast trailer due to the remote truck failing inspection. It was recommended not to repair but to replace this vehicle.

There was a lengthily discussion regarding the amount provided to the school department for their educational cable channel and operators.

Move to reduce account #940 Transfers to school district to \$0 by Chairman Osborne, seconded by Councilor Cardon.

Vote: 3-4-0 (Councilors Fairbanks, Fischer, Bourdon and Katsakiores) *Motion Failed*

After further discussion and explanation it was agreed to move the bottom line.

Councilor Cardon moved the bottom line for Cable in the amount of \$313,055, seconded by Councilor Katsakiores. Vote: 6-0-1 (Chairman Osborne)

Mr. Childs made the Council aware that the \$25,000 in account #740 needs to be moved to account #760.

Fire Department

Chief Klauber stated this budget continues to provide same level of service with no additional personnel and no new programs. This department has 64 personnel members which equates to 15 per shift.

There are capital improvements listed with no tax impact due to offsetting revenue.

Discussion regarding the overtime increase in this fiscal year. Chief Klauber gave stats of overtime and how it has decreased over the years. In order to pay this overage, it was paid through other accounts within the fire budget.

Councilor Cardon moved to reduce account #140 Overtime to \$607,068, seconded by Chairman Osborne.

Vote: 1-6-0 (Councilors Cardon, Fischer, Fairbanks, Bourdon, Dimmock and Katsakiores) *Motion failed*

Discussion ensued as to what effect this reduction would have on the fire department.

Chief Klauber explained the effects and how he would handle this type of cut without jeopardizing safety. He stated overtime costs are far less than hiring four permanent personnel. There were also questions regarding the increase in telephone account #341 and #560.

Councilor Fairbanks moved the bottom line for Fire in the amount of \$10,375,879, seconded by Councilor Katsakiores. Vote: 7-0-0

Dispatch

Chief Klauber stated that this budget contains the same levels of service with no new programs. There is one capital item for a municipal fire alarm decoder.

Discussion was on questioning how losing dispatch from Hampstead effected the revenue, questioned account #190 other compensation, account #740 machinery & equipment decrease.

Chairman Osborne moved the bottom line for the Dispatch in the amount of \$729,600, seconded by Councilor Dimmock.

Vote: 7-0-0

Executive Administration

Mr. Budreau explained the duties entailed in this department. This budget has four employees made up of the Town Administrator, Executive Secretary to the Town Administrator, Assistant Town Administrator/ Human Resource Director and Human Resource Coordinator. Included in this budget is \$125,000 for the Town Administrator and a \$4,200 car allowance.

Discussion regarding account #290, which is for unsettled union contracts and account #390 which is designated for un-forecasted needs of the town as assigned by the Town Administrator.

Chairman Osborne moved the bottom line of Administration in the amount of \$651,557, seconded by Councilor Cardon.

Vote: 7-0-0

Health

Public Health has two part-time employees and two grant funded employees. Garrett Simonsen is the Regional Public Health Coordinator. The Town of Derry has been the fiscal agent since 2006. The Regional Public Health Coordinator plans and trains mass groups on how to respond during disasters. There is a transfer to account #587 for a 2005 Ford Ranger Pickup truck.

Chairman Osborne moved the bottom line in Health in the amount of \$101,037, by seconded by Councilor Dimmock Vote: 7-0-0

Information Technology

Doug Rathburn stated the IT Department maintains all systems across the town departments. There are 230 workstations and 27 servers. Capital items requested are; copier and plotter and fiber optic lines for the new transfer station.

Discussion was on hardware and leasing, phones and wireless, reliability issues for networking.

Chairman Osborne moved the bottom line for Information Technology in the amount of \$608,731, seconded by Councilor Katsakiores Vote: 7-0-0

Community Development

Mr. Budreau reiterated the importance of this position for the near and far future benefit to the Town and its need to be put in place now.

Councilors' discussion entailed the need for this position, putting a plan together first, hiring the new Town Administrator before the Community Development Coordinator and having a process in place.

Mr. Budreau requested a non-public discussion as there is information that he has that may assist the Town Council in this decision.

Councilor Dimmock motioned to extend 10 minutes, seconded by Councilor Katsakiores.

Vote: 7-0-0

Discussion continued

Councilor Fairbanks moved to flag Community Development, seconded by Councilor Cardon.

Vote: 7-0-0

Adjournment 10:10 p.m.

Recording and Transcription by: Denise E Neale, Town Clerk Motions reviewed by: Frank Childs, CFO