



OFFICE OF THE
Advisory Board
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March 10, 2016

Present: Dana Metzler, Amie Stevens, Harold Simmons, Ron Mikol, Christine Muir

Absent: Pam Crocker

Also attending: Town Administrator Tracey Hutton

Meeting opened at 7 p.m.

Library Entrances

Library Trustee John Callahan and architect Richard Bocelli from a point design met with the Advisory Board to describe the current efforts to address the needed changes to the library entrances. The front, back and Children's Room entrances need some type of cover to prevent blockage by snow and ice runoff from the main roof. There are three tiers of possible solutions, ranging from \$100,000 to \$150,000. The base scope, which is estimated to cost \$100,000, provides a connecting trough at the front entrance and free-standing flat roof covers, with footings, at the other two entrances. Alternatives and add-ons, which raise the price, include heat tracing, a pad between two back entrances, a concrete path to the utility door, etc. There is little funding available in the trustees' accounts, so the town is likely looking at a debt exclusion and a statehouse note.

FY17 Police Budget Request

Police Chief James Downes and Lieutenant James Dow met with the Advisory Board to review the department's budget request for FY17. Tracey began by noting that the IT contract she is pursuing will cost more than originally anticipated because the department has more computers than previously thought. The contract will cost up to three times the original estimate. Tracey proposes using approximately \$5,000 from Technology line and finding the rest (approx. \$3,000) in the Police Budget. The chief noted that this could impact his ability to purchase small capital items, such as tasers, shields, helmets, etc. We discussed finding the funds in a different line item, such as Vehicular Supplies since fuel costs have gone down.

Ron asked about the primary driver in the budget increase from FY16 to FY17, and it appears that some of it comes from the switch to buying cruisers instead of leasing them. FY17 would be a transition year with additional costs coming from the second-year lease payment (covering two cruisers) and the purchase of one new cruiser. While the cost of purchasing and leasing is the same, purchasing cruisers saves the 9% interest rate payments. Ron questioned whether this is the year to make the transition or whether we could wait a year. We could also consider one lease and one purchase this year, for a total cost of \$53,000 instead of \$70,000. Tracey can also ask Bonnie to investigate better interest rates if we want to continue leasing.

FY17 Budget Review

The latest version of the budget includes the revenue from the transfer station, but does not include projections from Capital Planning or Personnel Boards. The cost of the Personnel Board recommendations is currently around \$86,000 (without factoring in benefits such as Medicare and FICA); the Capital Planning costs are around \$85,000 plus \$155,000 for a new highway truck.

We adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

R. Mitchell
David S. [unclear]
Handed R. [unclear]
Amie [unclear]
Christina