

East Windsor Board of Finance
Budget Worksheet Draft Minutes
Tuesday, April 02, 2013
7:00pm
East Windsor High School Media Center

Members present: Jason Bowsza, Joe Pellegrini, JerilynCorso, DanelleGodeck, Kathy Pippin, Gilbert Hayes

Members absent: Paulette Broder

Others present: Cathy Cabral (Treasurer), Joe Sauerhoefer (Police Commissioner), Andy Heath

- I. Meeting called to order at 7:00pm
- II. Budget line 1115 (Economic Development Commission)
 - a. Discussion was held about what the EDC has spent money on, and whether their economic outreach efforts were funded at adequate levels. After examining their current budget and requested budget, no changes were made.
- III. Budget line 1124 (Planning Department)
 - a. Some explanation was presented by the Treasurer regarding some contractual obligations that are shown in the Planning Department budget request. After some discussion, no changes were recommended.
- IV. Budget line 1130 (Senior Center)
 - a. Some discussion was had about the programmatic expenditures to date, as well as some variations in the fulltime salary line. The town Treasurer explained some staff restructuring. No changes were recommended.
- V. Budget line 1135 (Board of Finance)
 - a. Some questions arose about the increase in the conference and training line. It was explained that the increase was to allow board members to attend selective trainings that may have a cost associated with them. Several members in the past have attended conferences put on by CCM, GFOA, etc. No changes were made.
- VI. Budget line 2145 (Police Department)
 - a. JerilynCorso explained how the budget had been impacted by recent negotiations and answered questions from the board. It was agreed that this budget is managed very well. There was discussion about depleted staffing levels and potential cost impacts associated with being shorthanded. No changes.
- VII. Budget line 2147 (Communications System Maintenance)
 - a. This is a contractual obligation and no changes were made.
- VIII. Budget line 2150 (Fire Departments)

- a. Discussion was held explaining the new system recommended by the Board of Selectmen for managing fire departments in East Windsor. Under the new proposal, certain aspects of operations would be administered by the Town (invoices, purchasing, utilities, insurance, etc.) while preserving some autonomy of the departments. The proposal of instituting paid part-time fire fighters to augment low volunteer levels was discussed as well. No changes were suggested at this time.

IX. Budget line 2165(Fire Marshall)

- a. Discussion was held as to whether or not this should remain a stand-alone budget line or be incorporated into the newly established East Windsor Fire Department line. It was decided to leave it as is for the time being.

X. Budget line 2170 (Emergency Management)

- a. Discussion was held explaining the development of this budget to be able to fully meet the needs of the community in emergency situations. No changes were made.

XI. Budget line 2185 (Firefighters/Benefits)

- a. This line was moved into the newly created East Windsor Fire Department line

XII. Budget line 3180 (Public Works Department)

- a. Discussion was held regarding the vehicle maintenance line

XIII. Budget line 3183 (Road Improvements)

- a. Extensive discussion was held about the increase over a two year period in the road improvements line. Board members discussed whether it was more appropriate to include road maintenance in the budget or to advocate for including it in a potential bond initiative later in the year.

XIV. Budget line 5240 (Ambulance)

- a. Extensive debate was held about whether to include funding of the non-profit East Windsor Ambulance Association, eliminate the funding, include some portion of the recommended funding, or defer any funding decisions until all points of a perspective agreement could be considered. It was pointed out that, in addition to the recommendation of \$50,000, the association acknowledges in their tax documentation that the town contributes \$43,000 in other benefits such as rent, utility costs, etc.

XV. Other budget lines were examined, without changes, including the Building Committee (line 1086), Zoning Board of Appeals (line 1120), Planning and Zoning Commission (line 1123), Planning Department (line 1124), Building Department (line 1125), Elderly Commission (Line 1129), Ethics Commission (line 1144), Inland/Wetlands Commission (line 1150), Town Government benefits (line 1195), Public Safety hearing officer (line 2100), Police Commission (line 2144), Warehouse Point Fire District (line 2155), Fire Protection (line 2160), Dog Warden (line 2175), Dog Damage (line 2180), and Public Safety Benefits (line 2195), Street Lighting (line 3185), Engineering (line 3190), Public Works Benefits (line 3195), Collection and Disposal (line 4205), WPCA/Sinking fund (line 4220), Vital Statistics (line 5210), E.W.V.N.A (line 5225), Human Services (line 5235), and General Assistance (line 5236)

Jason Bowsza

