

Franklin Finance Committee Minutes

April 2, 2013

Council Chambers

Present: Jim Roche(JR), Paul Aparo (PA), Mike DuFour (MD), Susan Dewsnap (SD), Tim Smith (TS), Linda Huempfner (LH), Brett Feldman (BF)

Discussion, motion, agenda items

Meeting is being recorded. Noting a quorum present, Jim Roche called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

No citizens comments.

Motion to approve Minutes from February 5, March 13, March 14, and March 28: Approved 7/0

Approval for FY 2014 Budget

- Recommended budgets by department were recited. Total Operating Budget = \$105,559,492
- Question raised (MD) regarding Fire Department staffing levels and use of overtime versus new hires. Points discussed:
 - o 2 new assisted living developments add to call volume
 - o Reduction in productivity, morale
 - o Could we add full time personnel instead of budgeting overtime expenses?
 - o Response times are up
 - o Workforce is aging
 - o Adding a full time staff member creates legacy costs
 - o With pending retirement of some Fire Department staff, new recruits may help to reduce the overtime expenses
 - o Collective bargaining agreements are still pending
 - o Overtime is not evenly distributed, but always tracked
 - o With overtime, fire fighters work approximately 95 shifts per year

Motion made to approve General Fund budget of \$95,109,701: Approved 7/0

Motion made to approved Total Enterprise Budget of \$10,449,791: Approved 7/0

Old Business: None

New Business:

- 1) 5 Year Forecast prepared by Town Administrator

Big ticket Item challenges:

- Balancing budget

- Roads
- Storm Water mandate from EPA
- OPEB
- Water and Sewer system improvements

Projected revenue growth is slower than expense growth

2) Auditor's Report

Issues Discussed With Auditors

- a. Fraud Risk Assessment
- b. Ambulance Billing – can we outsource?
- c. GASB 68 preparation re: Franklin's pension obligation

Next meeting tentatively set for May 7, 2013

Motion to adjourn at 7:50 Approved 7/0