

TOWN OF GREENVILLE
2013 Budget Public Hearing
Wednesday, February 6, 2013
Minutes

Public Hearing opened: Selectperson Bergeron opened the public hearing at 7:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Chairperson Blease, Selectperson Bergeron, Selectman Reardon, Town Administrator, Kelley Collins, Police Chief James McTague, Road Agent, Thomas Plourde, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Kathy Valliere, Fire Wards, Charles Buttrick, Edward White and Greg Eastman, and various members of the public.

Selectperson Bergeron noted that she would be going through the warrant first and will come back to the operating budget – this is the order they appear in the handout (see attached).

Article #4 – no questions

Article #5 – no questions

Article #6 – no questions

Article #7 – no questions

Article #8 - (see question under Article #9)

Article #9 – Charles Buttrick asked if Article #8 fails there is no other plan to get the town hall painted? No there is not. Mr. Lambert asked if this work on the Town Hall includes the doors? The Town Administrator noted that she had spoken to the Library and they are interested in having the doors painted to match the rest of the building so it does include painting the doors the brick red color the other doors are painted. Mr. Miller asked if this is just outside work? No work on the inside windows? No this is just outside work.

Article #10 – no questions

Article #11 – no questions

Article #12 – no questions

Article #13 – Mr. Miller asked how the Board feels about the police joint contract? The Board is still working on the contract with Temple. Mr. Miller asked why we are moving from a 5 year to a 3 year term. Selectman Reardon though we would have a better handle on the agreement if we went to a 3 year term.

Article #14 – Mr. Miller asked if the Highway Block Grant amount has gone down? It has. In 2011 we were getting \$47,000, in 2012 we got \$39,000 and this year we are estimating \$37,000. Selectperson Bergeron remembers this amount being as high as \$52,000 one year. This amount is dependent on taxes collected by the State.

Article #15 – Mrs. Winslow asked what are we doing? Town Administrator noted that this is slated to cover the rest of the chemical piloting program. We are just finishing with the second aluminum based product (EPIC 1100 and EPIC 1300). We will be starting the piloting of an iron based Ferric product for 4 – 6 weeks. This amount will cover the cost of chemicals and lab testing. Charles Buttrick asked who we are using for engineers for this? We are still using Woodard & Curran as they have been the engineers for the whole term of the Administrative Order from the EPA.

Article #16 – Chief McTague explained that the 2005 cruiser has 160,000 miles on it. It needs \$3000 of repairs/maintenance that we know of and it has been in two accidents. He has all the cruisers on an 8 year replacement cycle. Because Greenville originally purchased this vehicle, 100% of anything we could get for it would go back to Greenville. Mr. Lambert noted that he was confused about the “not” recommended by the Selectmen. Selectperson Bergeron stated that the Board had made that notation when they originally saw the two warrant articles because they wanted to support the personal protective equipment and try to hold off one more year for a cruiser so they could put more money in the capital reserve fund. Since then they have received additional information from the Chief but since the full Board has not met since then they have not had an opportunity to change their recommendation. The Board will be changing this recommendation based on the new information.

Article #17 – Chief McTague explained that the guns are twenty years old. They are starting to see failures on the firing range. These are the same weapons used by the NH State Police. The NH State Police have upgraded three times. There is no one left to fix these anymore. We received ten tasers in 2006 or 2007. They are \$1000 each. The manufacturer recommends they be replaced every 6-7 years. He is going to replace two that are broken now. Our bullet proof vests are 8+ years old and the manufacturer recommends replacement every 5 years. Charles Buttrick asked if the whole price changed as we noted that Greenville’s price had gone down? Yes, the original warrant article was written for a total of \$9453 which will change to \$7540. Temple’s share will go from \$3687 to \$2337 and Greenville’s price will go from \$5766 to \$4599. The lower price takes into account trade-in of current guns. Mr. Miller asked why this isn’t in the operating budget? Chief McTague notes because we only buy guns every 10 – 15 years.

OPERATING BUDGET

Executive Budget – Mr. Miller asked what contract did we get zapped on? The Town Administrator noted that the IT contract with CCS has increased due, in part, to more comprehensive coverage. Mr. White asked what office equipment we are buying? The Town Administrator answered that she has budgeted for (2) new desktops in her office. One was due

for replacement this year and one next year. She decided to budget for both this year as next year is the proposed year for replacement of the town hall server, at an estimated \$9 - \$10K. Rather than ask the residents to purchase both a server and one desk top next year – she put both desk tops in this year.

Elections & Registration – no questions

Financial – Town Office – The Town Administrator explained that this is the year for the town-wide update which adds cost to the assessing for the year. Selectperson Bergeron noted that we tried to do the town-wide update in 2011 but the town meeting voted to remove \$21,737 slated for it. The cost to do it in 2013 is \$39,900 and it is required by the Department of Revenue Administration. Mr. M. Buttrick asked is this year 1 of the assessing cycle or is this year 5. It is year 5.

Financial – Tax Collector – Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Mrs. Valliere asked that the “tax lien” line be increased \$200 from \$2600 to \$2800. She noted that this is hard to predict.

Treasurer – no questions

Legal – A member of the public asked if \$50K will be enough. The Town Administrator noted that they are hoping to settle with Pilgrim Foods. She also went through the legal funds spent to date on several bigger cases (Pilgrim Foods \$30K in 2011 and \$42K in 2012, DD, LLC \$3022 in 2012, 283 Greenville Road, New Ipswich \$4916; Ms. O’Keefe and Mr. Proctor \$5077; Pelletier \$8205)

Personnel Administration – no questions

Planning & Zoning – Why is there a negative amount? It was explained that we budget a certain amount for public hearings and then we get it reimbursed. In the future this should show up as an expenditure and then as a separate revenue on the revenue side, not a credit to the expenditure side.

General Government Building – there was some question about the new line for Tax Deeding for \$30K and why is it in GGB? The TA explained that the Selectmen have taken a new and stricter view on tax deeding and have begun to tax deed properties (two to date, and three more to follow shortly). The \$30K will cover the legal, insurance, evictions and removal/demolish of mobile homes when necessary. In addition, there is an offsetting \$20K on the revenue side to show anticipated redemption of tax deeds. In 2012 we received \$134,000 from City Line for the redemption of their tax deed. It is in GGB because once the tax collector deeds the property it becomes the town’s property to insure and maintain.

Cemetery – Mr. Lambert asked about the flowers. Mr. M. Buttrick stated that traditionally the Town bought (5) large bouquets for people who gave money to the Trust Funds. He suggests that this issue should be raised with the Cemetery Trustees. Mr. Lambert also noted that there are many monuments leaning and can’t something be done about them? It can but it is expensive and there aren’t funds budgeted for that currently.

Insurance – Property Liability – no questions

Police – Mrs. Valliere asked the Chief who are the part timers now? Chief answered D’Auria, Sprankle, Needham, Lamarre, Valente and Maxwell. Maxwell is a full time Sargent in Mason and Needham works full time in New Ipswich. Mr. Miller asked if our wages are competitive. The Chief said after this year we will be. He stated he hates losing good officers. Mr. C. Buttrick asked about the sewer bill – the PD may have had a water leak. Mr. Miller asked if

there was anything we could do about the 29% increase in health insurance. The Town Administrator explained that the health insurance increase was 8.7% the rest is to budget for two person plan instead of a one person plan.

Ambulance – no questions

Fire – Mr. Lambert asked what new apparatus the town is buying? There is no plan to buy apparatus but there is a plan to buy some equipment. Selectperson Bergeron asked what the fire department is doing with the \$40,379 in the Fire Pond Capital Reserve Fund? Ed White stated that there are still a few areas of town that don't have hydrants and that fund should probably be changed to reflect the need for cisterns.

Building Inspector – Mrs. Valliere asked who our assistant is? TA explained this fund allows us to hire on an on-call basis if Jim Shultz is unavailable for whatever reason.

Emergency Management – There was discussion about who holds the positions.

Forest Fire – Peter Vaillancourt was not in attendance

County Dispatch - Mr. C. Buttrick asked if we have a signed contract with County Dispatch, what is the duration and when does it expire?

Highway – no questions

Street Lights – no questions – Mrs. Winslow asked if we're bidding out the electricity? There is a plan to do that this year.

Wilton Recycling – Selectperson Bergeron stated that next year they are looking to purchase a compactor.

Animal Control – Ed White asked what animals the ACO takes care of. Everything but cats.

Mrs. Winslow asked about the wages. The Town Administrator explained that we did not have an ACO until May of 2012 and he is paid on an on-call basis.

Health Agencies – no questions

Town Assistance – no questions

Parks & Recreation – Mr. Miller asked if there is a plan to give the pool staff raises. He said it seems unfair that the lowest paid employees get nothing. The TA noted that the Board has not voted on raises for pool staff yet, but last year the returning lifeguards and pool manager did get a small raise. She reminded him that a \$.25 raise at their rate is a 3.4% increase when the rest of the employees got 1.5% last year. Mrs. Winslow asked about the possibility of putting up cameras to help alleviate vandalism. There has been some discussion about that possibility. The Chief did prosecute juveniles for sneaking into the pool and vandalizing it. Mr. C. Buttrick asked about water & sewer for the Parks & Rec. The TA explained that they are billed the water to fill the pool (100,000 gallons at \$6.50 per 1000 gallons = \$650). Mr. Miller asked if we could spend a little less money on fish for the fishing derby because the adults wait until the end and fish them all. Mr. Lambert asked about the idea of a security system at the pool. Mrs. Lefrenere stated that Greenville Falls had issues too but they don't since they put up cameras.

Library – no questions

Patriotic Purposes – the town received an updated quote for fireworks and it is \$250 less than originally quoted. This line will read \$6050. No questions

Conservation – no questions

Debt Services – no questions

Waste Water – no questions

Water – no questions

Revenue – no questions – Mr. C. Buttrick thanked the TA for supplying the revenue information

Public Hearing was closed at 9:19 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Kelley A. Collins/Town Administrator

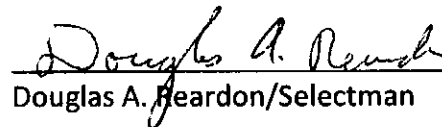
Approved by:



Scott Blease/Chairperson



Brenda Bergeron/Selectperson



Douglas A. Heardon/Selectman