

Dewey Beach Budget & Finance Committee Meeting Minutes for March 8, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 3:33 pm.

Members in Attendance: Lynn Winkler, Joe Kienle, Bill Stevens, Phil Winkler, Zeke Przygocki, Nancy McCloskey, Jill Compello, Dave Davis (quorum)

Others in Attendance: Gary Persinger, Scott Koenig, Dale Cooke, TJ Redefier, Jim Degan, Ellen Driscoll (Cape Gazette reporter), Gary Talley, David Moskowitz, Lt. Hocker, and a few others from the public.

Administrative Items:

The agenda was adopted as written.

Roll call was taken with full attendance for the first time.

The minutes for both the Jan. 25th and Feb. 8th meetings were discussed and approved with amendments to the Feb. 8th Workshop minutes made by Gary Persinger.

Next meetings were scheduled for April 12th and May 17th, both at 3:30 pm at the LSS.

Discussion of Business:

1. Review current YTD financial performance vs. budget – Scott led the discussion, focusing on the overall positive results due in large part to extraordinary Transfer Tax and Building Permit revenues, plus the DBE building permit.
 - a. Bill asked about Business License revenue, which is low, but is expected to catch up after the 3/31 deadline. Scott indicated that he's working on how to synch this so that a better view of the license revenue can be seen before the end of the new budget cycle. Dave mentioned that moving the deadline back to Jan. 31 or Feb. 28 of the year would give visibility needed, but Scott was focused on moving it ahead for the coming year. Outcome of this issue will be tracked.
 - b. Member of the public Jim Degan asked whether the allocations were apportioned each month or just divided into 1/12ths. Scott indicated the revenue sections had been apportioned but the expenses were not for the current year budget.
2. Review draft budget for FY 2020 – Again, Scott led the discussion, indicating that the current draft shows a surplus of approximately \$18k. The final page of the budget spreadsheet shows a list of projects that have been identified and will be further defined and discussed with Council to determine funding sources.
 - a. The Committee discussed the 3% across the board increase for full-time employees. Given that the budget shows a nearly \$18k surplus and noting that an

additional \$25k is likely to be available from an adjustment to Lifeguard budget, the consensus was to give the employees 4% increases. A motion to recommend this change to Council was made by Zeke, seconded by Bill and carried by a 6 to 2 vote.

- b. Further discussion and explanation by Scott of staffing levels, including moving a half-time position from maintenance to the admin department and bringing a current part-time employee on full-time. The Committee asked Scott some questions about workloads and Scott indicated that the addition is fully justified.
 - c. The budget calls for nine full-time police officers plus three part-time officers throughout the year. Seasonal officers have been reduced from 20 to 16 this year.
 - d. Scott indicated that the Lifeguards are budgeted for 21,000 hours and some discussion of salary level took place, but nothing was decided.
 - e. Scott has moved all the accounts to cash management accounts and the checking accounts are receiving 1.5% and all other accounts receive 1.6% interest. Also \$500,000 from the general funds balance has been moved to Brown Advisory on March 1 and will earn the T-bill rate.
3. New revenue stream recommendations – the Committee focused its discussion on the Hotel Accommodations Tax and the Resolution to be discussed the following day by Council. The Committee members felt that the town should request a 3% ceiling in the Resolution, and a motion was made and unanimously approved 8-0 to forward this recommendation on to Council.

With no further business to be discussed, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dave Davis, Chair