

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 2/11/20
TIME: 1:45 PM
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

**Town of Seymour ~ Board of Finance
MINUTES
Budget Deliberations
Monday, February 10, 2020 at 7:00pm
Norma Drummer Room, Seymour Town Hall**

Members Present: Bettyann Peck, Kwame Dunbar, Bill Sawicki, Beverly Kennedy, Jim Cretella, John Stelma; Paul Wetowitz (alternate)

Members Absent: Richard Demko; Grace Brangwynne, Gary Popielasz (alternates)

Others Present: Lianna McMurray, Elise Wood, Doug Thomas

Item #1 – Call Meeting to order

Chairman Bill Sawicki called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

Item #2 – Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone saluted the Flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item #3 – Public Comment

None

Item #4 – Deliberation and discussion of 2020/2021 Budget

Town Clerk's Office

Town Clerk Lianna McMurray presented the budget for the Town Clerk's Office:

- The only line that increased was salaries (this is per contract)
- Bill Sawicki asked how the printing & binding costs stay the same from year to year. Lianna said that they have a company for Land Records, called Avenue Insights & Analytics, we have an online program for people to print copies, we pay for leasing the equipment (computers, software) – it is a five-year contract – ends in 2023. At that time, we choose whether to keep with the same company (they replace the equipment as needed).
- Revenues have increased because of the "Real ID".
- Bill Sawicki asked how we are doing with our revenues compared to our budget. Lianna will check on that. Bill Sawicki assisted Lianna in how to present the revenues.

There was a discussion about the Board of Education moving out of 98 Bank Street building & up to the High School. This is still in the planning (architects & engineers) stage. When the High School was renovated, it was with the intention of having the Oxford students at the school. At the last minute, Oxford decided to build their own High School. There is a lot of extra space there (only about 50% occupied). There are people interested in buying the 98 Bank Street building. Bill Sawicki said that we need to do this; whatever the cost, it is worth it. Paul Wetowitz asked if the Board of Education has enough in their budget for the move. Bill said we will find the money. Bettyann Peck asked if we take a hit with the schools because Oxford didn't come here. Bill Sawicki said we didn't lose money from the state, we lost the fee per child that Oxford would have paid us (roughly \$5,000 * 500 children) but also, we do not have the extra expense for teachers, etc. Bill Sawicki said that we are already saving about \$70,000/year in maintenance costs for Lo-Presti School, now that we sold that property.

Registrar of Voters

Registrar Elise Wood presented the budget for the Registrar of Voters:

- The largest increase is for "Election Staffing" (about \$20,000)

- Elise said that this line item includes ballots, memory cards for the tabulators, programming of the handicapped voting machines. Bill Sawicki asked Doug to change this line item to: "Elections – Staffing, Ballots, memory cards".
- The cost for a Presidential Election Year is \$45,000. This includes one election and two primaries. For the Municipal Year was \$25,000.
- Bill Sawicki asked how much the poll workers get paid. Elise said that it is about \$200 - \$300/day, depending on what they do. That is from 5am to 9pm.
- Bill Sawicki asked if we could get a breakdown of the \$45,000 for the "Election Staffing" line item for this year AND alongside that could we have last year's numbers as well?
- John Stelma asked about the "Regular Employees". Elise said that this is for college students that come in to process voter registrations and other office tasks. This is an "as needed" position (different people). Bill Sawicki asked if these people get a W2 or a 1099. Doug said that it depends. Bill said that we need to be very careful about how people are paid (employee vs. contractor).
- Paul Wetowitz asked if there is a Democratic Registrar. Elise said that there is: Christine Foray.

Board of Education will present their budget tomorrow night. We do share insurances expenses and an I.T.Department with them. They are responsible for about 65% of the total budget.

Item #5 – Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40pm.

Submitted by:

Monica Dimon
Recording Secretary