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TOWN CLERK

Board of Finance
REVISED Budget Hearing Minutes

Wednesday, March 12, 2025
Town Hall Auditorium 9:00pm

Present: Chairman Glenn Patterson, Ronald R. Fedor, Bill Sheehan, Michael Rocchetti, Robert Tuneski, Josh Kelly, Joseph Filippetti

Elected: Rob Brule, First Selectman; Paul Goldstein, RTM Moderator

Staff: Kimberly Allen, Finance Director; Christine Walters, Director of Human Resources; Jeff Robillard, IT Manager; Rebecca Hall, Admin Assistant Finance Office/BOF Recording Secretary

1. **Establishment of a quorum and call to order:**
A quorum was established and a call to order was established at 7:32 pm, March 12, 2025.
2. **Public comment:** none

Standing Motion: was made by Bill Sheehan and seconded by Robert Tuneski to consider the budget requests without individual motions for each series and department to expedite the meeting. Bill Sheehan will make motion on all budgets and Ron Fedor will second the motion.

Vote: 7-0-0

Motion: Passed

3. **Human Resources Budget:**

Motion by Bill Sheehan and **seconded** by Ron Fedor to approve the Human Resources budget request for FY25/26 in the total amount of **\$244,204** designated by the Series Subtotals above.

Christine Walters, Director of Human Resources, presented an opening statement sharing with the Board that it was a challenging year for hiring/rehiring for positions. Next year, at the end of FY26, there will be more contract negotiations with unions in the Town and the budget will reflect that specifically in legal fees. HR will be working on transferring all paper documents to electronic files to minimize the amount of paper records kept by the Town which is mandated by the State. Bill Sheehan requested the number of job descriptions that were modified by HR this past year. The director will forward the list of positions to the Board.

Vote: 7-0-0

Motion: Passed

4. Retirement Budget:

Motion by Bill Sheehan and **seconded** by Ron Fedor to approve the Retirement budget request for FY25/26 in the total amount of **\$7,760,257** designated by the Series Subtotals above.

Bill Sheehan pointed out that all costs are benefit costs.

Vote: 7-0-0

Motion: Passed

5. Insurance Budget:

Based upon conversations with alternative insurance carriers, the Director of Finance, Kimberly Allen, recommended that the Board decrease the Insurance budget by \$500,000 as that amount is projected to be the reduction in cost under the Town's new insurance proposal.

Motion by Ron Fedor and **seconded** by Michael Rocchetti to approve the decrease in Line# 10112-52251 Health Care from \$4,709,735 to \$4,209,735 for a total line reduction of \$500,000 designated by the Series Subtotals above.

Vote: 7-0-0

Motion: Passed

Motion by Robert Tuneski and **seconded** by Michael Rocchetti to approve the Insurance budget request for FY25/26 in the total amount of **\$5,604,561** designated by the Series Subtotals above.

Vote: 7-0-0

Motion: Passed

6. Legal Budget:

Motion by Bill Sheehan and **seconded** by Ron Fedor to approve the Legal budget request for FY25/26 in the total amount of **\$295,000** designated by the Series Subtotals above.

Vote: 7-0-0

Motion: Passed

7. Information Technology Budget:

Motion by Bill Sheehan and **seconded** by Ron Fedor to approve the Information Technology budget request for FY25/26 in the total amount of **\$1,214,796** designated by the Series Subtotals above.

IT Manager, Jeff Robillard, opened discussion of the IT department by presenting a budget that is 1.35% lower than FY24/25. He stated their focus is on strengthening the IT infrastructure of the Town. The IT Department encourages all Town departments to use IT as a resource to enhance everyday work.

Bill Sheehan requested a 1-2 page document to be submitted listing all software currently being used by the Town. Mr. Robillard will create this document and forward to the Board.

Vote: 7-0-0

Motion: Passed

8. **Motion** by Josh Kelly and **seconded** by Michael Rocchetti to add Nursing Services to the March 12, 2025 Budget Hearing.

Vote: 7-0-0

Motion: Passed

9. **Motion** by Bill Sheehan and **seconded** by Ron Fedor to approve the Public Health and Nursing budget request for FY25/26 in the total amount of **\$21,600** designated by the Series Subtotals above.

The Board requested that the Finance Director obtain answers to the following questions from the contact at the Visiting Nurses Association:

What is the number of Waterford residents that the VNA has serviced in the past year?

What effects has the change of Yale New Haven cutting funding/programs had on the VNA?

Director Allen will obtain the answers and forward to the Board. Response attached.

Vote: 7-0-0

Motion: Passed

10. **Adjournment:**

Motion by Robert Tuneski and **seconded** by Michael Rocchetti to adjourn the Budget Meeting of the Board of Finance at 8:16 pm.

Vote: 7-0-0

Motion: Passed

Respectfully submitted

Bill Sheehan, Clerk



Rebecca L. Hall, Secretary

What is the number of Waterford residents that the VNA has serviced in the past year?

What effects has the change of Yale New Haven cutting funding/programs had on the VNA?

1. In the **Wellness** programs we see approx. 52 patients per month. Most of these are people who come back month after month.
Over the course of the year there were 621 visits to the clinics.

In the **indigent care** program we see between 6-10 patients per month. Usually these are the same people as we maintain them outside of the hospital with monthly visits to help them remain in their homes.
2. Sunsetting these programs will allow the VNA to focus our time, talent and resources on our core business of caring for patients in their homes.

