BOARD OF SELECTMEN Steven P. Rose, Chairman Eric S. Beckerman, Clerk Jason L. Suzor, Associate

Gregory S. Enos
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

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By Patricia Bessette, Town Clerk at 4:17 pm, Jan 26, 202:

BOARD OF SELECTMEN WORKSHOP MEETING JANUARY 6, 2021 at 11:30 a.m.

Members present:

Steven P. Rose, Chairman (via teleconference)

Eric S. Beckerman, Clerk (via teleconference) Jason L. Suzor, Associate (via teleconference)

Others present:

Gregory S. Enos, Town Administrator (via teleconference)

Shanna M. Faro, Executive Assistant (via teleconference)
Deb Morin, Treasurer/Collector (via teleconference)
Erin Barry, Town Accountant (via teleconference)

Chairman Rose announced that pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Board of Selectmen is being conducted via remote participation. No in-person attendance of members of the public was permitted, but every effort was made to ensure that the public can adequately access the proceedings as provided for in the Order. Chairman Rose reminded the viewing audience that persons who would like to view this meeting while in progress may do so by joining the Zoom link for the videoconference in session.

Chairman Rose called the meeting to order at 11:30 a.m. Each Board member acknowledged their presence at the meeting by responding in the affirmative during the roll call. In addition, all anticipated speakers acknowledge their presence by responding in the affirmative when Chairman Rose called their names.

Initial Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Workshop

Mr. Enos shared his screen to display a Preliminary Fiscal Year 2022 Budget presentation on Powerpoint. Mr. Enos stated that although the local receipts are still behind the original estimates, it is closer now with December payments than the previous quarter. Mr. Enos stated that Fiscal Year 2021 State Aid figures are higher than anticipated. However, he expressed nervous optimism that it can be sustained throughout the year with the potential for 9C cuts.

Mr. Enos stated that the budget process for Fiscal Year 2022 will be as follows: ClearGov will be used for the second year in a row. The Fiscal Year 2022 budget will use the Fiscal Year 2021 budget for a baseline. Mr. Enos stated that he has requested to Department Heads that they keep their Fiscal Year 2021 expenses level-funded with only increases being showed as a complete necessity. Mr. Enos stated that he has received all departmental budgets except the School Department's budget to date. He has met with most Department Heads to review their preliminary submittals with them.

Mr. Enos reviewed the revenue with the Board including a comparison between Fiscal Year 2021 and Fiscal Year 2022 revenues, 2% increases and new growth potential. Mr. Enos stated that variables in the budget preparation include estimates for pension increases, insurance increases, and the costs associated with the new building. Mr. Enos stated that his goal for budget savings in Fiscal Year 2022 will include maintaining a reduction in expenses lines, to review various line items for decreases where applicable, and possibly paying off one bond with free cash. Mr. Enos informed the Board that he has reduced about \$300,000 from budgeted requests thus far. Mr. Enos stated that he was still waiting for the budget proposal from the Avon Public Schools as well as Blue Hills Regional Vocational School.

Mr. Enos stated that the next steps in the budget process will including completing meetings with Department Heads, working with the schools on their preliminary budgets, set up joint workshop meetings between the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen, finalizing the revenue and balancing the budget.

Chairman Rose requested that the School Department submit their budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2022 as soon as possible to meet the February 1, 2021 deadline for the Selectmen to submit the Proposal Operating Budget to the Finance Committee. Mr. Enos will contact the School Superintendent. Mr. Enos will also set up Joint Workshop Meetings between the Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen to meet with Department Heads to discuss their budget on Saturday, January 16, 2021 and Saturday, January 30, 2021.

Adjournment

At 12:45 p.m., Mr. Beckerman made a motion to adjourn the Workshop Session. Mr. Suzor seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. Mr. Suzor voted aye. Mr. Beckerman voted aye. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Shava In Faro

Shanna M. Faro

Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator

List of Documents

1. January 6, 2021 Meeting Agenda

2. Preliminary FY 22 Budget Presentation