Advisory Meeting, 3/27/2023 Approved 4/3/2023

Melville Room, Town Hall

Meeting began at 6:10 PM.

Present: Carol Fitzgerald, Sandra Sheehan, Doug Boyd, Kathy Pessolano, Heather Turcotte

Guests: Cliff Bombard, Dick Patullo, Rita Vail

Agenda: Review of department budgets for FY 2024.

Updates

Dick confirmed that the Stormwater line item should be level-funded at $50,000. He also summarized the line items that have more significant increases this year and shared an analysis of the mileage for the police chief vehicle. It appears more cost effective to continue to pay mileage on the Tahoe than purchase a lower cost vehicle. Dick indicated the we may need to add a Shared Services line item for the BOH nurse and agent.

Cliff indicated that there are some grants that haven’t been received yet, but have been expended. As an example, the town is owed $60,000 for crosswalk work. These issues will affect our free cash figure.

Senior Center update

There were updates from a meeting of the building committee held earlier this morning. There are some renovations that will need to be made to the bathrooms and storage area. The group discussed an intermediary step of trying to use the current space more efficiently before final expansion decisions are made. Possible strategies are an extension of hours to expand the availability of rooms and adding five hours of clerical time per week to accommodate that extension. The group may recommend this option for the annual town meeting and then renovations to the bathroom and storage area at fall town meeting. They’d continue to explore the expansion design while they also have the opportunity to understand the impact of the new Wilbraham Senior Center. All this information was from the building committee and had not yet been discussed or vetted by the Director or the Board of Selectmen.

School assessment update

There was some discussion about whether the assessment would be adjusted based on Wilbraham’s ability to support the current figures. Per the town attorney, we need to vote one figure in the assessment that includes the capital requests in the formal assessment letter.

Minutes

Minutes from the 3/6/23 and 3/13/23 were reviewed. Sandra made a motion to approve both minutes. Doug seconded. All voted in favor.

Doug made a motion to adjourn. Heather seconded. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 PM.

Recorded by Carol Fitzgerald