

Advisory Budget Committee

Minutes

January 11, 2023

This meeting was at the Barrington Town Hall with remote participation available.

Members Present: Steve Saunders, Peter Royce, Michael Houst, Scott Shepard, and John Morris

Alternate Members Present: Bill Irving

Others Present: Conner MacIver and Dannen Mannschreck (Select Board liaison)

Steve Saunders called the meeting to order at 4:30pm.

Steve Saunders discussed the plan to make recommendations on the warrant articles. He also discussed that the ABC could collectively introduce amendments at Deliberative Session.

Dannen Mannschreck gave the group an update of the SAU #74 proposed budget of \$27,817,221 which is an 0.84% increase. He also mentioned that the School budget does not include the Middle School bond payment which was paid off this past year.

Article 8: Operating Budget

There were no questions.

This article is recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 5-0.

Article 9: Town Center Tax Increment Financing District

The group asked many questions about how the proposed TIF District would operate. Members shared support for the idea of achieving the vision for the Town Center. Members also shared concern for the proposed length (20 years) and the ambiguity of some of the language.

This article is recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 3-2.

Article 10: Bridge and Culvert Capital Reserve

There were no questions.

This article is recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 5-0.

Article 11: Highway Equipment Capital Reserve

There were no questions.

This article is recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 5-0.

Article 12: Fire Truck Capital Reserve

There were no questions.

This article is recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 5-0.

Article 13: Fire Rescue Equipment Capital Reserve

There were no questions.

This article is recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 5-0.

Article 14: Dam Repair/Engineering/Replacement Capital Reserve

There was a question about which dam; Conner MacIver clarified that the appropriation was intended for necessary work at the Swains Lake Dam.

This article is recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 5-0.

Article 15: Police Equipment Capital Reserve

There were no questions.

This article is recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 5-0.

Article 16: Paving and Related Road Work Non-Lapsing Article

There were no questions.

This article is recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 5-0.

Article 17: Emergency Communication Upgrades Capital Reserve

There were no questions.

This article is recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 5-0.

Article 18: Transfer Station and Recycling Center Capital Reserve

There was discussion about whether this article could be deferred or if it must appear in 2023.

This article is recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 3-2.

Article 19: Library and Community Center Capital Reserve

There was discussion about voter support and the need for additional funds.

This article is not recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 3-2.

Article 20: Energy Capital Reserve

There was discussion about the purpose (energy audits) and if that was currently necessary.

This article is not recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 4-1.

Article 21: Library Technology Capital Reserve

There was discussion about the existing balance in the capital reserve account.

This article is not recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 4-1.

Article 22: Police Collective Bargaining Agreement

There were no questions.

This article is recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 5-0.

Article 24: Service-Connected Total Disability Credit

There were no questions.

This article is recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 5-0.

Article 25: All Veterans' Tax Credit

There were no questions.

This article is recommended for approval by the Advisory Budget Committee 4-0 (one abstention).

Meeting Adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Conner MacIver.