Meeting Minutes

Date: Tuesday, March 7, 2017  
Time: 7:00 PM  
Location: Lawrence Memorial Hall

Present: Edward Boscher, Melissa Hurst, Laurie Shea, Steven Rose   
Selectmen: Brenda Aldrich, Nicholas O'Connor, Ronald Aponte, William R. Barnett   
Guests: Gary Brougham, Jill Panto, Steven Williams, Chief Christopher Pronovost, Douglas Albertson

- Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM

Transfers

None.

Old Business:

None noted.

New Business:

Steven Williams, Director, Department of Public Works (DPW), presented the proposed FY18 budget for the DPW. Mr. Williams noted he projected an overall budget increase of 2.3%. He further requested an additional maintenance worker due to increased demands, such as maintaining ball field’s and accessibility of trails. He noted heating oil would be going out for bid for FY18. Mr. Williams stated his funding priorities would be new positions in maintenance, a heavy equip operator, and an office assistant. The group discussed Mr. Williams presentation, including the storm water management regulation and if its implementation could be deferred.

Chief Christopher Pronovost, presented the Town’s Police Department proposed FY18 budget, beginning with the many cost saving measures that have or will be implemented. These included, but are not limited to, auditing and contracting to auction property and evidence room inventory as allowable, certification of an internal staff as a
school shooter response instructor, elimination of outdated / unused software and reporting subscription services, grant funding received multiple grants, etc. Chief Pronovost’s funding priority is to add a Lieutenant position to the Police Department. A group discussion of the presentation followed.

Douglas Albertson, Town Planner, presented the proposed FY18 budget for the Planning Department. He noted no increase was being requesting and that he intended to cut a part time staff wages by a reduction of 10 hours to offset his full time wages. Mr. Albertson was given an opportunity to further expand on any highlights of his department’s performance. A group discussion followed his presentation.

Other Business:

- Ms. Shea distributed the minutes from the February 16, 2017 meeting.
- Ms. Hurst moved to accept the minutes. Ms. Shea seconded.
- Minutes were accepted 4-0-1
- Ms. Hurst distributed the minutes from the February 28, 2017 meeting.
- Ms. Hurst moved to accept the minutes. Ms. Shea seconded.
- Minutes were accepted 4-0-1.

Next Meeting:

- Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 7:00 PM; Lawrence Memorial Hall Auditorium

Adjournment:

- Mr. Boscher called to adjourn
- Ms. Hurst Motioned, Ms. Shea seconded. Approved 4-0-1
- Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Shea, Clerk

FINCOM Town of Belchertown (Endorsed by majority)

Edward Boscher, Chairman
Melissa Hurst, Vice-Chairman
Laurie Shea, Clerk

Steven Rose
Lynne Raymer