

FY22 Budget Hearing #2 joint meeting of Selectmen & FinCom January 27, 2021

Remote Participants: FinCom: Chairman Rob Hannemann, Bruce Golden, Vicki Divoll, Don Leopold, Eric Glasgow and Susan Murphy. *Marshall Carroll was not present.* Selectmen: James Malkin, Warren Doty, *Chairman Rossi joined at 6:00 PM* Others: Town Accountant Biskis, Town Administrator Tim Carroll, Fire Chief Jeremy Bradshaw, Clark Goff, Police Chief Jonathan Klaren, Town Treasurer Melanie Becker, Harbormaster Ryan Rossi, Peter Graczykowski and Diana DeBlase.

At 5:00 PM Chairman Hannemann called meeting to order on the Zoom remote participation platform.

Dukes County Sheriff – RECC:

Peter Graczykowski presented the FY22 warrant article for the island wide radio system upgrade for the Regional Emergency Communication Center (RECC). \$250,000.00 discussed the program for the maintenance contract for FY22. Broke down figures to total the \$250,000.00 request. Approximately \$50,000.00 less from last year. Chairman Hannemann said this is not maintenance, some of it is but format works best when actual lines are applied to request. Chairman Hannemann explained further that some items are Capital items.

Ms. Divoll asked if radios to EMS, fire and police will coincide with the new system. Mr. Graczykowski said yes we are providing subscriber units for FY22, should be distributed before July 2021. Mr. Graczykowski said we will have 566 units deployed in late spring.

Mr. Doty said we have an advisory committee put in place with an MOU that reviews budget, have they approved these? Mr. Graczykowski said yes, Town Administrator Carroll can speak to that. Mr. Carroll said we support the cost, but not all of these are maintenance.

Ms. Divoll said only maintenance was what we agreed to fund. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Malkin said what you are hearing from us is not an issue of what you are calling things but what you are asking the town to pay for. Chairman Hannemann said we would like to understand the operating cost of the RECC will be and what to expect for the next 5 years so we can forecast supporting your requests. Mr. Graczykowski said he would send you an email with clarifications. *Tim Carroll shared a pie chart comparing public safety with FY22 and FY21*

Police Department Budget # 210:

Police Chief Jonathan Klaren gave overview of FY21 and said pandemic has gone on longer than we thought so figures have changes with travel restrictions and training.

Couple items that can be decreased for FY22 as well.

Chief Klaren went on to present FY22 Budget: there is contractual COLA and step increase in salaries. Chief Klaren said there is an increase to the traffic officer line by another ½ an officer. Chief also pointed out an increase to Special officer line to \$50,000. Chief Klaren said collective bargaining agreement education incentives increased by \$28,131.21. Chairman Hannemann confirmed that these were contractual increase.

Accountant Biskis messaged (through zoom platform as audio not available) that the police department overall budget increased by 7.9% with salary changes.

Chief Klaren discussed the Police Department Capital Plan – cruiser replacement. Chairman Hannemann who is also Chairman of the Energy Committee spoke about Green Community higher efficiency vehicles. Chief Klaren said West Tisbury Police Department as just purchased some EV vehicles and he looks forward to see their review of them.

Chief Klaren said in regards; to the generator at Police Station; we have found is no good. Chief Klaren said Rodney Bunker working on this but there is a generator shortage now. Might be able to pay for this with this year’s operational expenses we need it now. Chairman Hannemann agreed that this is important to replace ASAP.

Ms. Murphy asked if the generator worked other than the motor mounts that have failed. Chief Klaren said he thought so and was hoping it could be re-welded but apparently that is not an option.

Chief Klaren said he recommends and hopes the FinCom support the warrant article for the security cameras that the Harbor Department is requesting for FY22.

Chief Klaren said Deb Hancock is donating portable speed signs that we are installing. Chief Klaren also noted that a resident donated funds to the police department in their will when they passed away.

Chief Klaren said he would work with Accountant Ellen Biskis with adjustments to this budget.

Fire Department Budget # 220

Fire Chief Jeremy Bradshaw spoke to all of the line items with increases.

Chief Bradshaw said we have 13 new personnel with an increase to reflect that in the stipends budget line. Chief Bradshaw said the rest of increases are cost increases to what is needed for operating. Chairman Hannemann said congratulations on getting 13 new members.

Fire Department - Warrant Articles:

Chief Bradshaw referred to the warrant list and said as for the thermal imaging camera, he thinks we just got a grant to pay for this. Chief said after the deadline for the warrant articles were he requested the Jet Ski he is happy to report it is being donated by a resident. Chief Bradshaw said he will need some funds for waterproof radio for it \$1,800 estimate.

Chief Bradshaw discussed the article for the DRONE package; drop flotation devices and mapping out our area and for fires and search and rescue. This would cover 2 drones training and some laptops.

There is also a warrant article for Turnout gear and hose replacement.

Chief Bradshaw said he received a vehicle so we will look for an electric all-wheel drive SUV.

Ms. Murphy asked if the department has used a jet ski for rescues. Chief Bradshaw confirmed they have.

Fire Department Continued...

Mr. Carroll said the response time is about ½ hour for USCG to respond to south shore water emergency. Harbormaster Ryan Rossi said there is extremely limited response to the south shore from Harbor department.

Harbor Department Budget # 295

Harbormaster Ryan Rossi reported Menemsha Harbor had an influx of transient boaters during COVID. Harbormaster Rossi said he proposes an Assistant Harbormaster increase. 1 at Grade 6 step 5 and the other Grade 6 step 1.

Harbormaster Rossi said they will run the Harbor with Seasonal employment of 19 weeks.

And as for Assistant Wharfingers there will be 4 of them for FY22

Harbormaster discussed the 63% increase to Harbor pilings line originally \$30,000.00 for 11 pilings. He said figures are needed to increase to cover the mobilization. We were only able to replace 6 this year with \$30,000.00. So increase by \$19,000.00 for total of \$49,000.00

At 6:00 Selectmen Chairman Bill Rossi joined meeting

Harbormaster Rossi said this budget reflects the Menemsha Water company line to reflect 20% increase to keep from going into deficit again.

Harbormaster Rossi said to offset increasing costs the Mooring annual fees have increased from \$100.00 to \$200.00. Harbormaster Rossi said we can expect to pay \$20,000 to \$40,000 for dredging annually.

The group (FinCom & Selectmen and folks present) Discussed Warrant articles data available on website. Mr. Carroll said the security system is now estimated to be \$20,000.00 new figures from Ron Burson.

Chairman Hannemann recommended an update to the budget hearing process; solicit any items that need more discussion and then we can add them to future meeting for follow-up and discussion.

Accountant Ms. Biskis advised to only use budget book that is on the website as that is where she will have all updated figures reflected in the data.

Mr. Doty said we are looking at 6.88 % budget increase. \$750,000 increase very large override, need to look at whole budget together. With budget as is it would be a significant Over-Ride vote.

At 6:20 PM with no further items for discussion, Chairman Hannemann asked for motion to adjourn. Ms. Murphy moved to adjourn. Mr. Golden seconded the motion.

SO VOTED: FinCom: 6 Ayes, 1 not present. Selectmen: 3 Ayes.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Diana DeBlase.

Approved 03/11/2021

Document list: www.chilmarkma.gov budget FY22 1.27.2021