Special Meeting of the Blue Hills Fire Commission Budget Workshop Minutes

Date: Tuesday, April 27, 2021
Where: Blue Hills Fire Department

Time: 6pm

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Legal Chair, Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai at 6:03pm.

Roll Call

Legal Chair Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai, Fire Chief Willie Jones and Director of Finance, Errol Bartley.

Absent: Commissioner Sheray McDowell and Commissioner Michelle Adams.

Audience Present: Barbara Taylor, Milton Salmon, Vincent Jaunai, Joshua Henry, Justin Cusson, and Rachmiel Moise.

Verification of Public Notice

The Notice for the Public Hearing for the proposed Fiscal year 2021-2022 budget notice was posted on Friday, April 16, 2021 on the Blue Hills Fire Department website, the outside and inside sign boards and in the Hartford Courant Public Notice Section 13 on Saturday, April 17, 2021.

Budget Workshop

Legal Chair Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai opened the budget workshop and stated that the Fire Chief and the Director of Finance puts the budget together and that "we" the Commissioners will not be voting as this will be a District Vote with the taxpayers of the district next month. Commissioner Jaunai also stated that Finance Director, Errol Bartley will go line by line and explain each item on the 2021-2022 draft budget.

Finance Director, Errol Bartley stated that the Fiscal Year starts on July 1st, 2021 and ends on June 30th, 2022, and that some of the line items are self-explanatory, but if anyone has questions, he will answer them. Bartley also stated that there were no new line items added and that they all are in comparisons to last years, just that some of the figures went up and he will explain what the increase were. The projections as of June 30th, is going to be \$2,020,000 that is the actual figure of the amount of money collected through April. The budget is \$2,041,706 that is the amount that was given by the Town of Bloomfield Tax Collector's Office. The Blue Hills Fire District Mill Rate is .0025% and we are always one year behind so the grand list for 2020 is \$816,682,400, that is multiplied by the .0025 and \$2,041,706 dollars to be used for revenue.

Finance Director Bartley stated that the last column on the Draft Budget should be FY22 Variances vs FY's 21 Projected Actual, those changes will be made before approval. The total revenue projected is \$2,161,206, total expenses are the same, net income/gain loss is zero.

Public Hearing on FY 2021-2022 Budget (Open Discussion)

At 6:30pm, Legal Chair Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai opened the Public Hearing on the FY 2021-2022 Budget to the audience for their input and or questions.

Open Discussions consist of the following:

<u>Line Item:</u> 5730 – Grounds (Vincent Jaunai)

It was asked if this line item includes all 3 stations as something needs to be done to the lawn at station 3. Finance Director Bartley stated that yes, it for all 3 stations and \$3,500 is budgeted and Chief Jones stated that we can explore the possibility of having something done up there.

<u>Line Item:</u> 5960 – Contractual Services (Vincent Jaunai)

It was asked if we were at a point where we can stop leasing the copier and purchase one. Finance Director Bartley stated that we should look into getting a more updated copier which includes color as well.

<u>Line Item:</u> 7045 Internship (Vincent Jaunai)

It was asked if the Community Outreach budget is part of the Internship Budget. Finance Director Bartley stated that it is not, the Internship Budget is separate and will continue with 3 participants.

Budget Workshop (Open Discussion)

There were no further questions, comments or concerns, Legal Chair Commissioner Ariel Marzouca-Jaunai ended the workshop.

<u>Adjourned</u>

Budget Workshop Meeting adjourned at 6:39pm

Donna Banks Clerk/Treasurer

Minutes Approved Thursday, July 1, 2021