

Budget Committee Minutes

5:00PM Tuesday, January 16, 2019, Vinalhaven Town Office

Present

Andy Dorr, Tanya Robishaw, Janann Sherman, Margaret Qualey, Ann Farley, Eric Davis, Bill Alcorn, Lucy McCarthy via teleconference call, Holly Sault not in attendance.

Introduction

First order of business-chairman. Ann nominated Bill, second by Eric, all were in favor, and Bill accepted.

Section Review & Discussion

Bill started the meeting.

Andy provided a tentative timeline inquiring if this would work for the committee. Bill liked the every two week setup, and agreed that it would work. All committee members agreed.

Discussion continued with concentration on Andy's draft which displayed short term and long term goals. There was a 10 year plan presented in the draft for review; with hopes to add more goals from committees before final print.

Eric added the cemetery committee should contribute on their end by the end of January.

Andy added to the discussion stating that parks underspent for what would be assumed necessary. An inventory of needs, volunteer crews, paid crews, trails, etc-would be helpful going forward. Andy stated this is an active group, and the money is available. Unspent pilot money will roll over into parks reserve going forward, adding Armburst Park at ICMS needs work.

Eric added public works has done a great job with Boy Scout Point, and hopes to continue working with the crew on projects when they are available.

The group discussed increases and decreases referenced in Andy's draft. The committee discussed areas in detail, along with needs going forward. Transfer station needing a new piece of equipment, whether it be a backhoe or excavator, was used as reference. Ways to utilize the equipment between public works crew and transfer station were discussed, if that is the route decided. The lifespan of the equipment would depend on how it is used, compared to a construction company should last longer. The possibility of using an excavator for snow

removal, digging ditches, and at the transfer station seems more cost efficient than the repairs on the current backhoe that is used. There were other options discussed, such as renting.

There was discussion on who was best to make decisions regarding new equipment, and the most sensible, cost efficient options. Andy added the selectmen have discussed an engineering firm to cover areas in this nature. The firm would assist with decision making in areas of new equipment, paving, reconstructing or adding asphalt, etc.

Margaret asked for the "big jumps" on Andy's draft to be explained.

Andy referenced the transfer station noting that the actual year data was not included; and there will likely be an increase for equipment repairs. Solid waste took a big jump with hauling more material. It was noted that there were over 100 trucks last year carrying around 600 ton of solid waste. Through burning the town is paying for hazardous waste (ash loads). The cost of trips, ferry tickets, man hours contributes to cost increase.

Agenda for Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held Wednesday, January 30th, 2019 at 5PM. Topics to be discussed will include capital improvement, revenue, and debt service. Budget goal work book will be available.

