

**Town of St. Albans
Selectboard 'Special' Meeting Minutes
Monday, December 12th, 2016
6:00 p.m.**

On Monday, December 12th, 2016 at 6:00 p.m., the Town of St. Albans Selectboard met at Town Hall for a 'special' budget meeting.

Officials and staff present: Chair, Stan Dukas, Bill Nihan, Sam Smith, Town Manager, Carrie Johnson, Town Clerk, Anna Bourdon, Public Safety Administrator and Fire Chief, Bob Cross, Director of Public Works, Alan Mashtare and Interim Town Manager, Al Voegele. Absent were Vice Chair, Bruce Cheeseman and David McWilliams

Public present: Sharon Cross, Robert Ostermeyer and Everett Devarney from the Food Shelf.

Stan opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The purpose of the Selectboard 'special' meeting was to conduct a budget work session to work on the fiscal year 2017 - 2018 budget.

Fire Department Budget

Bob Cross and Carrie Johnson presented the fire department budget. The Board requested the budget be adjusted to add an amount to cover employment physicals for fire department personnel. Carrie to review the estimate from NMC occupational health and add that amount on the Firefighter H & S (health and safety) line 10-7-42-62-01. It was noted that the fire department is not requesting a voted article this year. The furnace and air tank replacement, as previously discussed with Al Voegele will be funded thru other accounts and is not in the fire department budget.

Parks and Recreation Budget

Alan Mashtare, Carrie and Al presented the Parks and Recreation and Department of Public Works (DPW) budget. The Selectboard requested the summer parks help start in May, college students or other part time help needs to start before mid-June to assist with mowing and trimming Town owned properties. The salary line may need to be adjusted some to accommodate 4 weeks of additional parks and recreation labor.

There was a good deal of discussion about removing the parks restoration line budget of \$5,000. This line was formerly called "Beach Restoration", Alan recommends adding no more sand and spending some time and money on the stone house. The Board agreed to leave \$5,000 on line 10-7-60-55-01 and use this money to create a plan to renovate the stone house to include updating all electrical, restrooms, doors and windows.

There was a lot of discussion about the dock expense line 10-7-60-56-01. It was decided to increase this line from \$5,000 to \$10,000 to allow for a comprehensive evaluation about what can be done to repair and/or upgrade the Town dock. It was noted that the new marina will likely increase use of the dock and we need to maintain it as well as plan for the future. It was also decided to remove the \$70,000 sea wall project for fiscal year 2018. The Board wanted to see if the recently renovated sections held up to wave action which did not occur last winter. Line 10-7-60-99-03 was reduced from \$70,000 to \$0.

Cohen Park Handicap Accessibility line was renamed "Cohen Park Use Plan". Alan to assess how and if the Town needs to build ADA access to the beach at this venue. Alan was asked to get prices to buy a pick up for the summer crew to avoid them driving the larger Town plow trucks, with plans to put this on as an article.

Department of Public Works Budget

Alan, Carrie and Al presented the DPW budget. Carrie suggested and it was agreed to reduce the DPW Salary line 10-8-50-10-00 from \$334,856 to \$320,000. This allows for DPW salaries, overtime, call-in pay and cell phone stipends with a small buffer in case overtime exceeds our estimates. It should be noted that the \$30,000 Building Maintenance 10-8-50-55.00 line was moved from "Town Manager" line 10.7.15.56.00 \$30,000 into DPW building maintenance line.

No net increase or decrease. DPW Stormwater line 10-8-50-70-00 \$30,000 was moved to Director of Administration Stormwater line 10.7.13.30.00. Alan encouraged rewriting our paving request for proposal to include a firm paving deadline, that includes financial penalties for not meeting deadlines. Alan stated he is going to research including

reclaiming pavement with hopes to save money and reduce the amount of edging required.

Adjournment

MOTION: B. Nihan made a motion to adjourn the 'special' meeting at 8:15 p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Carrie H. Johnson