

**MIDDLEFIELD BOARD OF FINANCE**  
**405 Main Street**  
**Middlefield, Connecticut 06455**

Minutes of the March 25, 2021 Budget Workshop Video Conference

Jim Irish started the meeting at ~7:07 pm.

Attendance:

Members

Others

X	Irish, Jim	X	Rusilowicz, Al
X	Kowal, Melissa	A	Bailey, Ed
X	Lowry, David		
X	Nick, Joel	X	Jason Wickham
X	Skelps, Michael	X	Hannah Malcolm
X	Wolak, Mary	X	Anne Olszewski

A=Absent

X=Present

**Discussion with Jason Wickham regarding Public Works 2020 activities and proposed FY22 budget**

- Jason reviewed FY21 equipment purchases, downsizing of gear, and revenue achieved for excessed equipment sales.
- Overall, the public works FY22 expense budget proposal reflects a \$6K reduction vs FY21 with road maintenance up slightly, offset by planned reductions in salt purchases and garage expenses.
- The capital proposal requests an increase of roughly \$32K, largely driven by a need for purchasing a second smaller dump truck and accelerated funding for the workhorse, front end loader in FY22.

**Discussion with Hannah Malcolm regarding Pro and Rec. 2020 activities and proposed FY22 budget**

- Hannah reviewed accomplishments for the current and previous year at Peckham Park, Lake Beseck and other facilities.
- The proposed FY22 operating expense budget represents a ~\$12K increase over FY21 - with increases split evenly between Peckham (mowing and wages) and Lake Beseck (additional lifeguard wages).
- Hannah offered a reduction of \$560 on the originally proposed Lake Beseck expense total.
- Regarding the FY22 capital plan, her request is ~\$65K lower than the previous year with many projects having been completed over the past 12 months.

**Both Jason and Hannah were thanked for excellent leadership of their organizations, productivity in their teams achievements, and presentation of a clear and informative review of activities and budget proposals.**

### **Discussion of other miscellaneous budget topics**

- Al Rusilowicz review a summary of changes made to the budget thus far in the process. Total expenses have been reduced by \$144K, with the lions share coming from a reduction in the school budget request.
- Al also reviewed out current status vs. the 2.5% statutory limit on year-to-year municipal expense increase. The original 1st Selectman's budget calculated to a 2.56% increase, slightly above the allowable limit. Changes thus far are reducing the net municipal increase to be within the limit.
- DMIAAB is scheduled to meet with the BOS and BOF in joint session April 13. Inland Wetlands and Emergency Management are working to find agreeable dates for workshop discussions. The Registrars of Voters feel no need for discussion of their budget as submitted.

### **Next Workshop March 30 - P&Z and Lake Beseck Environ. Cmmttee.**

The meeting was adjourned at ~9:18 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Irish