

**Milford Budget Advisory Committee  
Draft Minutes  
January 11, 2017**

**Present:** Karen Mitchell, Jim Roccio, Matt Lydon,  
Chris Pank, Wade Campbell, Peg Seward,  
Paul Bartolomucci, Cara Barlow and Bob Courage

**Absent:** None

**Guests:** Janet Langdell (SVTC), Carol Brooks (Chairwoman of  
SVTC), Dave Boucher (Director of Water and  
Wastewater Facilities) and Dale White  
(Water/Sewer Commissioner)

**Business:** Meeting called to order at 6:34 by Matt Lydon

**SVTC (Blue Bus)**

The warrant article for 2017 for SVTC is 30k, which is up \$2300 from 2016. The bus has been in service for 9 years now with 23,882 rides since October 2008. The percent of Milford rides as well as other towns for 2016 was comparable to previous years. Most of the rides are to and from Nashua for healthcare. Subsidized rides are done working with SHARE to deem so if appropriate. SVTC also works closely with FISH for other towns that we are not traveling to yet with the bus. Average rides per month are around 307. The breakdown in funding for SVTC is: 63% Federal, 23% Municipal and 14% Donations/Fundraising. The amount of federal funding is uncertain until it is received, which can make budgeting difficult as well as the fact that it has been on the decrease.

**Generator Warrant – Dave Boucher**

The generator is part of Phase II in the maintenance plan for the Town water and sewer systems. The 375k bond would be funded by user fees and is to replace the current 1979 model.

It runs well right now, but is becoming increasingly difficult to find replacement parts. The facility runs 24/7 and can not afford to shut down, as it will result in backups of the Town's systems.

The same engineer is being used for Phase II as was used last year with Phase I. Dave stated that they have had to use this generator several times (power outages in that part of Town). The generator has also failed once resulting in the need of nearby help, though that can only run part of the plant. There will be an attempt to sell the old generator, but they suspect that there will little to no value left.

### **Wastewater Utilities**

The proposed budget for 2017 is \$2,004,250, which will be amended at Deliberative Session to be \$1,947,540. This will be approximately a 1.8% increase from last year. The increase is due to increased debt, merit raises and benefits costs and some decreases in items such as lab equipment and supplies. There is a sewer capital reserve fund to cover projects that don't run through the normal departmental budget. Wastewater puts 120k into its capital reserve fund each year and water utilities puts 240k into its capital reserve fund.

### **Water Utilities**

The proposed budget for 2017 is \$1,442,008, which will be up approximately 3.5% from last year. Similar to wastewater, the reasons for the increase are: increased debt, merit raises and benefits costs. In addition, the Mayflower tank is going to need some maintenance work this year. There are some cracks on the inside and will need similar repairs to what was done previously at the Dram Hill Cup tank, though not as extensive.

### **Keyes Park Expansion Committee Project Warrant**

Janet Langdell and Paul Bartolomucci were in attendance to answer questions regarding this warrant article. The committee did not write the actual warrant article, but did the research and proposed plans for the project. This warrant is strictly for improvements to the park, not general maintenance. It has been determined that the older building is not worth saving due to the high costs of making it useful and safe. To tear down the old building and building a new 30,000 sq. ft. building would cost approximately \$3.3 million. The vision for this expansion is to provide more walkability in the downtown area for all to enjoy. Concern was voiced over the wording of the article to make sure that it can only be used for expansion and improvement and not maintenance. A question was raised as to whether or not it was taxpayer money that was raised for Kaleigh Park or BROX community land?

The next meeting will be Jan. 18 in the BOS room

The meeting was adjourned at 9:56pm.

Respectfully submitted by, Karen Mitchell, Secretary