

FIFTH BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING

MINUTES

JUNE 24, 2021

TOWN COUNCIL:

Greg Welch	President
Edward (Skip) Ash	Vice President
Pamela Davis	Councilman
James Sample	Councilman
John Wright	Secretary/Treasurer

TOWN EMPLOYEES:

Cheryl Lynch	Town Clerk
Larry Corrigan	Chief of Police

OTHERS:

Tony Morgan	Thornton Pitts
Penelope Pitts	Robert Murray
Kathy Murray	Betsy Walters
Bill Manzke	Ricky Schlegel
Ronald Hall	Priscilla Schoolfield
Henry Mumford	Leroy Williams
Jesse Truitt	Kerin Magill
Valerie Dugdale	Mike Dugdale
Christine Bauer	Janet Hearn
Michelle Valentine	Dillon Thune
Robbie Murray	Elaine Murphy-Mahon
Duane Beck	Patrick Quigley

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

Greg called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS:

Skip made the motion to approve the agenda and was seconded by John
Motion was unanimous

Greg noted the meeting is to discuss the Budget for 2021-2022

John noted the Budget Income from the last meeting is \$403,500.00 and the Budget Expense is \$468,558.04 giving a deficit of \$65,058.04.

John noted to the public the adjustment by ten percent on the Budget Income and Expense.

John noted to be a forty-five percent increase in employee wages totaling \$80,141.01.

John noted to cover the \$80,141.01 deficit we would need to increase the property tax rate to \$3.85 per one hundred.

John noted the has 3.6 million sitting in a cash reserve account earning 1.00%.

John noted if the town maintained the current tax rate and the town kept using the reserve the town would use those funds up in forty years.

John noted the increase in two part time police officers at sixteen hours per week and increase in hours for maintenance and a second healthcare benefit.

Kathy noted the cost of the healthcare plan.

John noted the current Healthcare plan cost is \$17,000.00 and the new plan cost is \$8,000.00. the new plan had a sign up fee of \$1,000.00 and an annual fee of \$500.00.

Kathy noted are the police grants included in the wage expense.

Larry noted the grants are not included in the wage expense.

Larry noted the grants are Sussex County Grant \$30,000.00 and not guaranteed the \$5,000.00 Per year only because the county had access funds.

Larry noted the grants for Sallie and Edide are usually between \$2,900.00 to \$7,500.00.

John noted the Income and Expense for the General and the Police fund

Tony Morgan noted could a Town Manager could reduce the consultant fee.

John noted a Town Manager could assist in reducing the consultant fee.

John noted the wage worksheet this includes Cheryl, Full-Time Maintenance employee, Larry and three part time police officers. This includes the five percent wage increase and COLA. The town might not use the whole five percent but this figure is in the budget.

Greg noted if we increase the property tax that would put the budget in the black.

Thornton Pitts noted if the town hires the two additional part time officers what are their hours.

Larry noted they would work two to ten or three to eleven.

John noted the park rental is \$75.00 and they get \$25.00 refunded back to them.

John noted the town needs a policy to collect debt

Kathy Murray noted need to make a list of policies the town needs to process and the Council needs to check with other municipalities

Elaine Mahon noted need a speed limit sign that automatically gives you a ticket.

Robbie noted part time officers could be less in the winter more in the summer.

The public asked questions to Chief Larry how many part- time police officers and what would be their schedule.

Larry would like two more part time police officer and the hours would be three to eleven, two to ten and eleven to seven.

Greg noted the next Council meeting is July 6, 2021

ADJOURN:

Skip made the motion to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by John
Motion Was unanimous

RESPECTFULLY

Cheryl A Lynch
Town Clerk