Dublin Budget Committee
Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2018

Present:  Steve Baldwin, Nancy Campbell, Charlie Champagne (Chairman), Bill Gurney, Judy Knapp and Sturdy Thomas (Selectman’s Representative)

Absent:  Susie Vogel

Also present:  Sherry Miller (Town Administrator), Bruce Simpson (Planning Board), Dale Gabel, Bill Goodwin and Sterling Abram (CIP Committee members)

Meeting called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairman Champagne.

Minutes from the October 9, 2018 meeting were moved by Sturdy, seconded by Bill and approved as amended.

Bruce Simpson presented the Planning Board budget:

The 2019 budget of $5,302 is $160 less than 2018 budget. Most items remain the same with the exception of the following:

Secretary:  Slight increase to $2,600 due to rounding up (also increasing the Social Security and Medicare lines). Bruce reported that the board has been busier in 2018 because of more economic activity.

Master Plan:  Has been completed and came in $5,000 under what was budgeted. Bruce felt that because a full plan was done this time the next plan in 10 years would only be an update. There will be a warrant article to put $1,000 in the Master Plan Expendable Trust Fund in 2019.

Printing:  Down $50 from $250 to $200.

Registry and Filing Fees:  Down $100 from $200 to $100.

The Budget Committee invited the CIP Committee to come and discuss their logic behind the proposed plan and to understand the financial impact going forward. Dale explained that the dollars in the plan are best estimates of what items will cost, however the figures could use some refinement. The road construction schedule needs to be looked at further to see if the current 18 year cycle could be pushed out to 20-22 years. Fire equipment (engine 2) replacement has been pushed out to 2021.

The Committee is trying to spread costs out evenly on a yearly basis. For the 2019 budget we should plan on putting $350,000 into the capital reserve funds. At a 1% inflation rate, that figure should be $500,000; at 2% inflation it would be $650,000. The goal is to put enough money away to avoid borrowing.
Nancy asked if any consideration had been given to a public safety building. Dale reported that no one was advocating for one, although storage is needed for the Fire Department. Nancy also pointed out that the Cemetery building should be added to the plan, as well as the Fire Department exhaust system.

Sterling reported that Greg Pease gave an estimate of $80,000 for the Highway garage addition.

Dale advised the Budget Committee that the school board had given up on the idea of consolidation for now, but they would be looking at the funding formula.

The Dept. of Revenue has approved the emergency appropriation of $25,000 to pave the storm damaged roads when the rest of the road paving is done.

The Budget Committee public hearing for the article to raise and appropriate $225,000 to repair the rest of the roads and cover what has already been spent will be October 17, 2018 at 7:00 pm.

The court approved the Special Town Meeting that is scheduled for November 8, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the fire station. Sherry will check with DRA to see if there is any additional paperwork that the Budget Committee needs to complete for this special appropriation.

Sherry reported that the matching grant ($2,000) for a laptop for the newest cruiser has been finalized (a laptop was not included in the 2018 budget) and the match will come from the Burt fund. Sherry also reported that the miscellaneous line in Building Inspection was for certified letters and business cards.

The Selectmen will talk about a new policy for funding non-profit organizations.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 23, 2018 to review the Library budget, a budget for miscellaneous recreation and to discuss the addition to the Highway garage. Any discussion on a new policy should be based on a comparable size building. The Cemetery Trustee Chair will be invited to come to discuss the budget, although the Budget Committee doesn’t feel it is necessary for the Chair to attend because the budget is basically the same as 2018.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy E. Campbell, Co-Secretary