

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**  
**PUBLIC MEETING**  
Judge Welsh Room, Town Hall  
Provincetown MA  
**MONDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2017**

Members Present: Mark Hatch (MH), Chairman; Duane Steele (DS); Scott Valentino (SV); Mark Bjorstrom (MB); Kathleen Goodwin (KG).

Remote: Louise Vendon (LV), Vice-Chair; Mark Del Franco (MDF).

Others Present: David Gardner (DG), Assistant Town Manager; Josee Young (JY), Finance Director; Mary-Jo Avellar (MJA), Town Moderator.

**1. Public Statements**

LV thanked Fire Chief, Michael Trovato.

**2. Member Statements**

None.

**3. Budget items to reopen/discuss**

220 – Fire Department, Fire Chief

Fire Chief, Mike Trovato, presented; said they've been looking at an approach for the future per the Dept. and have had many conversations with DG; explained the increases, including a more fair or realistic salary for the Fire Chief, raised to 55k; noted combining fire inspections in the past which are now performed separately; Hank performs gas and John Brown oil, and these services have saved the Town from having to hire an inspector; streamlined deputies; mentioned the number of grants Jimmy has secured for the Town.

On the EMS/rescue side, Chief Trovato referenced working with Lower Cape Ambulance in saying he believes it is still the best way to go, saves money and enables the Dept. to rotate ambulances, requesting to up the service to 200 days, probably a bit ahead of Memorial Day and further into the fall season.

Seeking to up the Captain's stipend from \$800 to \$1250; First Deputy to 15k and second deputy to 8k; 4-plus fire hour drills to raise from \$50 per to \$75; raise to \$50 from \$25 per Fire call. Vehicle Maintenance with a 5k increase.

MH said he concurred with Chief Trovato's budget and questioned if the public was aware of the 3-hour call response time based on the distance to Cape Cod Hospital.

220 Capital Budget

Chief Trovato said they were requesting 45k for 2018 to upgrade Air Pacs; referenced a past grant secured by Jimmy for over 100k; infusion pumps are now required and stretcher at 62k. Looking at 2019, deputy's vehicle replacement is in the forecast; big ticket items for 2020 include engine replacements and ambulance

replacements in 2021; engine #190 in 2022 and ambulance #197 in 2023; said some ambulances have too many miles already on them to retain; 2024 is the year for the Chief's vehicle replacement; more Air Pacs in 2026 plus another ambulance; 2027: mechanical CPR machine.

Chief Trovato reported that the Johnson Street Fire Station is coming along nicely.

MH noted it's a good feature of the budget review to have a look at the long-range forecast big ticket items. MB said he does not have a problem with the Fire Dept. budget increases. LV said the public would do well to note what potential costs would be if the Town had a full-time fire department. Chief Trovato said it could probably double in budget that way. SV mentioned the sacrifice that is well worth it when trades-people or contractors must leave an incomplete job to go on a fire call.

**SV made a motion to approve the 220: Fire Department budget as presented. MB seconded the motion and it passed, 7-0-0; SV, MB, MH, DS, LV, MDF, KG.**

**SV made a motion to approve the 220: Fire Department Capital Improvement budget as presented. MB seconded the motion and it passed, 7-0-0; SV, MB, MH, DS, LV, MDF, KG.**

#### 231: Ambulance Service – Treasurer, Lower Cape Ambulance

Steve Roderick, Treasurer, Paul Silva, Director, John Thomas, CEO, presented. Mr. Roderick noted a 2.25% increase, largest being in the personnel line item, said they do 1,000 transports a year, working closely with Truro, sharing of vehicles and mutual back-up and part-time staff members which keep costs down; mentioned 3-year forecast plan, adding that Truro has begun hiring its own f/t staff.

Mr. Roderick said July 4<sup>th</sup> and Carnival are the two busiest days of the year, but noted the senior population of the Lower Cape as keeping the dept. busy with calls. Mr. Thomas said they are seeing more of Wellfleet and Truro coming to help with calls, as all three ambulances are often engaged at once.

Mr. Roderick stated the average cost per day for Provincetown services is \$2,325.80; Truro is \$996.77; which comes to roughly \$100 per hour for 24/7 coverage.

MDF asked per the accounting increase in the budget which Mr. Roderick said is due to having the entire personnel manual reviewed by legal consul.

**MB made a motion to approve the 231: Ambulance Service budget as presented. DS seconded the motion and it passed, 7-0-0; MB, DS, MH, SV, LV, MDF, KG.**

#### 210: Police, Police Chief

Chief Jim Golden and Lt. Greg Hennick presented. Chief Golden referenced a prepared written statement articulating the Dept.'s budget specifics and gave highlights of A-Budget with an increase of \$25,705 in contractual commitments that represents a 1.74% increase over last year; expenses in the B-Budget at a \$10,219

increase, or 2.41%; \$400 increase in contracted services in B4; 10% increase for training; B8, up \$700 – known vendor costs; B15, increase of \$1200 in equipment.

MB asked per B7, which Chief Golden said signals extra security for events such as First Light and reconfigured Carnival operations.

Chief Golden referenced look-back reviews for 2015 and 2016 included in the report. LV asked per the budget increase for investigation, which Chief Golden noted concerned drug and poison areas of concern.

MJA asked about drinking on the street and said she felt there was an increase in red and blue drinking cups in public; asked if the \$50 fine is still being charged. Chief Golden said this is a key topic of training in the PD and the violation is addressed. MJA noted a lot more partying in guest houses, which MH concurred.

Chief Golden turned to collective bargaining and detailed budget and rationale requests; said summer staffing is not increasing as they've come to work with an elongated shoulder season. MH asked Chief Golden to address over-time calculations for the listening public, which he did in highlighting staffing shifts and seasonal events, plus items like the appearances of Senator Hillary Clinton and the transportation of prisoners to court appointments as well as supervisor coverage and a dramatic up-tick in bike patrol.

LV voiced her confusion over the pie-charts and the large increase in over-time, which Chief Golden said was attributed to a retired officer and an injured officer and the delay in finding replacements to join the dept. based on the Town's remote location and the nearest regional training facility being in Plymouth; said his hope is to find recruits from the next graduating academy that starts in June, ends in the fall.

**SV made a motion to approve the 210: Police Department budget as presented. MB seconded the motion and it passed, 7-0-0; SV, MB, MH, DS, LV, MDF, KG.**

#### 210: Police Department Capital Improvement Program

Chief Golden said there were two requests this year; upgrading investigatory equipment at \$25,479, including computer, interface and electronic transmission to the State Police, first year of tech support included, approximately \$3,750 thereafter, yearly. Second request is housekeeping: a 5-year cruiser rotation program.

MH mentioned needed digital upgrades, to which Chief Golden said they'd been operating with 1996 technology, but that the hand-held radios do have great field of coverage. Complete State overhaul came in at \$300 million even as incoming Gov. Baker froze prelim finds of \$65 million, whereby a holding pattern was put in place. SV noted that the PD currently has to source parts from e-Bay. MDF asked per fingerprinting protocols, which Chief Golden said are currently snail-mailed.

**SV made a motion to approve the 210: Police Department Capital Improvement budget as presented. MB seconded the motion and it passed, 7-0-0; SV, MB, MH, DS, LV, MDF, KG.**

299: Parking – Police Chief, Parking Administrator

Dominic Rosati, parking Administrator and Chief Golden presented. Mr. Rosati noted a slight increase in A-Budget, payroll, and in B-Budget, Grace Hall parking, which went up \$2,500; spoke of the great success of the new kiosks which had 11,500 transactions since they were installed on June 28<sup>th</sup>; Passport Parking app was also a successful new measure and brought in revenue of \$7,952.

MJA suggested signs would be helpful; gave example of a couple she encountered at the Ryder Street lot who were trying to pay in the off-season when parking was free. Chief Golden said signs could possibly be shrink-wrapped for preservation.

Mr. Rosati said parking revenues were down 90k across all the lots even as kiosks went up. Chief Golden noted that paid parking begins this year May 1<sup>st</sup> as opposed to April 1<sup>st</sup>. MH deducted that giving the Town free parking for the month of April cost the Town about 75k, to which SV said this loss might be off-set by the increase in revenue brought to the Town by an increase in visitors due to the free parking. MH added that the ferry revenue can be looked at as well for this study in comparison. Mr. Rosati said that permits will continue to be sold for the season starting at the end of March, beginning of April. SV said the sensors save the Town time and money by enabling the attendants to process permit holders expeditiously; requested a pass-holder-only exit to make even better use of time in queue.

**MB made a motion to approve the 299: Parking budget as presented. SV seconded the motion and it passed, 7-0-0; MB, SV, MH, DS, LV, MDF, KG.**

299: Police & Parking Capital Improvements Project

Mr. Rosati said the CIP concerns kiosks plus professional quality solar lights for the parking lots.

**MB made a motion to approve the 299: Parking Capital Improvement budget as presented. SV seconded the motion and it passed, 7-0-0; MB, SV, MH, DS, LV, MDF, KG.**

291: Emergency Management – Police Chief, Health Director

Chief Golden presented; said the annual budget regards a joint sheltering program with the Town of Truro, which covers its share; said they were working to bring more members online via emergency management; reported a stable budget. MJA spoke of the need for emergency generators.

**MB made a motion to approve the 291: Emergency Management budget as presented. SV seconded the motion and it passed, 7-0-0; MB, SV, MH, DS, LV, MDF, KG.**

**MH adjourned the meeting at 10:47am.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jody O'Neil