

Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Commissioners' Budget Meeting

Meeting Called By: Commissioners

Date, Time: 9/21/2021, 5:30 PM

Transcribed By: Beth Joslin

Location: Park Street Station
149 Park Street, Northfield

Call to Order

Commissioner Pyra called the meeting to order at 5:40 PM.

Attendance

Commissioners Paul Auger, Jon Cilley, Eric Pyra; Chief Michael Sitar and Administrative Assistant Kathy Tobine

2021 Operating Budget

Commissioner Pyra asked if they were locked into contracts for any of their utilities. Chief Sitar replied that they were for electricity till December 2022.

Dry Hydrant / Cistern Fund

At the last meeting Chief Sitar proposed putting \$100,000 in a fund for dry hydrants and cisterna. After some research Chief Sitar stated that it would cost in the area of \$80,000 to \$97,000. He believes that with \$100,000 they would be able to install one dry hydrant and one cistern and pay for the legal fees. Extensive discussion ensued regarding dry hydrants & cisterns.

4130 Executive - \$7,500

Reducing the commissioners' pay was discussed.

Commissioner Auger made a motion to fund line 4130 for \$7,500. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

4140 Elections - \$2,000

Commissioner Pyra asked if they should increase the line to accommodate the special meeting they will need to have. After some discussion it was decided to come back to the line after the dismissal hearing.

4150 Auditing - \$8,100

Commissioner Pyra asked if they were in the final year of their contract. Kathy replied that it could be but she would need to check.

Commissioner Pyra made a motion to fund line 4150 for \$8,100. Commissioner Cilley seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

4153 Legal Expense - \$15,000

Commissioner Pyra suggested leaving this line till further in the process as they may have a better idea of their legal situation.

4194 General Government Buildings - \$61,797

- 410 Electricity - \$11,900
- 411 Heating Fuel - \$9,417
- 412 Water - \$1,400
- 413 Sewer - \$800
- 430 Repairs & Maintenance - \$38,280

Commissioner Cilley recommended raising the electric amount for Center Street a little since there are additional people and they will likely be using more power. Electric bills were discussed.

Commissioner Cilley made a motion to increase line 410.01 from \$5,700 to \$6,000 and to keep the other lines of 410 the same, for a total of \$12,200 to fund line 410. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion for discussion. Commissioner Pyra expressed concern that they had told voters that the SAFER staff wouldn't cost them more money. Being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

Discussion ensued regarding previous years heating fuel use.

Commissioner Pyra made a motion to fund line 411 for \$9,417. Commissioner Cilley seconded the motion for discussion. The CPI increase of 39.1% was discussed. Being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

Chief Sitar commented that the numbers in the water line are higher because the water district has said they would raise the fire district to the posted rate. Commissioner Cilley suggested they hold off on the water line till later in the season.

Commissioner Pyra made a motion to fund line 413 at \$800. Commissioner Cilley seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

The commissioners stated that they would like to see more quotes for the siding at Center Street.

Commissioner Cilley made a motion to fund the interior painting at Center Street Station for \$1,200. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

Commissioner Cilley made a motion to fund plymovent repair at Center Street Station for \$926. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. Commissioner Pyra asked what the lifespan of the hose was. Chief Sitar explained that it is supposed to release automatically, but there are times that it doesn't. Being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

Commissioner Pyra made a motion to fund Center St General Maintenance for \$5,500. Commissioner Cilley seconded the motion. Discussion ensued regarding spending in 2021. Being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

Commissioner Cilley made a motion to fund line 430.05 Center St Fire Alarm Monitoring for \$360. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. Being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

Commissioner Auger made a motion to fund 430.011 generator for \$100. Commissioner Cilley seconded the motion. Being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

Commissioner Cilley made a motion to fund line 430.02 Park St. Station for \$7,380. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

Commissioner Auger made a motion to fund lines 430.03 & 430.07 for \$5,720. Commissioner Cilley seconded the motion. Being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

Chief Sitar stated that he was contacted by the DPW and informed that they could create another 6 parking spaces behind Center Street Station and still leave space to drive around the building. Discussion ensued regarding current parking spaces and how many spaces the department needs.

Commissioner Auger made a motion to fund line 430.04 & 660.11 for \$500. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion for discussion. Commissioner Pyra questioned whether they should lower the amount. Being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

Commissioner Cilley made a motion to fund line 430.08 for \$1,046 for discussion. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. Chief Sitar explained the line item to be for maintenance and equipment monitoring. Discussion ensued regarding monitoring. Being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed, 2 to 1.

Commissioner Pyra stated that he would like to wait on the Park Street Communications Tower till later in the year in case a bill comes in and they may have an idea of the costs. Discussion ensued.

335 School/Training Fees - \$21,175

There was discussion of what trainings and recertifications included. Commissioner Cilley suggested skipping this line till they can see a breakdown of what is included.

341 Telephone - \$8,624

Commissioner Auger made a motion to fund lines 341.1, 34.2, & 341.5 for \$8,624. Commissioner Cilley seconded the motion. Being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

342 Information Technology - \$21,865

Discussion ensued regarding line items. The commissioners agreed to wait on this line till the meeting with the computer company to see if they need to replace any of their systems.

350 Medical Services - \$16,860

Chief Sitar commented that the price per physical did go up this year. Discussion ensued regarding who gets physicals and where they are done.

Commissioner Auger made a motion to fund lines 350.01 & 350.02 for \$16,860. Commissioner Cilley seconded the motion. Commissioner Cilley would like to shop around to see if they could get a better price. Discussion ensued regarding prices and what is included in the physical. Being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

390 Other Professional Services - \$1 & 392 Background Checks - \$520 & 550 Printing - \$500

Commissioner Cilley made a motion to fund lines 390, 392, & 550 as written. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. Being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

Other Business

There was no other business.

Adjournment

Commissioner Auger made a motion to adjourn at 7:24 P.M. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Joslin

Beth Joslin
Office Clerk

Next Budget Workshop Date, Time, Place: September 28, 2021 at 5:30 PM.
Tilton Town Hall, Downstairs Meeting Room,
257 Main Street, Tilton NH

Next Meeting Date, Time, Place: October 5, 2021 at 5:30 PM.
Tilton Town Hall, Downstairs Meeting Room,
257 Main Street, Tilton NH