

Middlesex Budget Committee
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, November 22, 2022
4:30 PM

Present: Randy Drury, Theo Kennedy, Mark Harris, Dorinda Crowell

Meeting Minutes

4:30 Call to Order - Welcome Guests - Amendments

4:35 Other Business

- Review and approve Nov 1st meeting minutes:
 - Randy proposed amending the gravel replacement cost of \$37K/mile to reflect that it's to fully replace existing gravel; likely to a depth of 12 inches. Mark will amend.
 - Randy motioned to approve
 - Theo seconded
 - Motion passed 3-0
- Review Action Items:
 - Mark reported that both action items (14 & 15) were closed
 - Mark also reported that Victor planned to include \$100K annually in the Highway budget for future gravel replacement, vs. adding a new item to the CIP
- Discuss usage of town fund "buckets"
 - Dorinda explained that voters approve funds either as line items in the budget, or via a Special Article, for a specific purpose
 - Discussion ensued on the concept of seeding a CIP fund, with sub-line items, for specific depts.
 - Consensus was to include funding for a CIP fund in the budget instead of going the Special Article route
 - The CIP fund would be broken out by dept., with funding allocated to each
 - This could be discussed with the Select Board as a proposal to add to next year's budget (2023/2024)
 - Theo brought up the concept of an Opportunity fund. Dorinda suggested that adding another line item to the CIP fund for Grants would be a good first step.
 - The Budget Committee would have to establish a process for approving the use of monies out of the CIP fund
- Review and score the Salt Shed request -
 - This was set aside to complete at our next meeting
 - Dorinda asked why it's needed, as this is going to happen
 - Consensus was to dry-run the scoring process with this request
 - Mark asked if the Shed could be included in the 2024/25 budget, and live with the temporary solution until then
 - Dorinda reported that the temporary roof is just a tarp covering over trusses
 - Randy also reported that some of the cost is being spent now, approx. \$20k, as the foundation pad is being laid, even for the temporary solution

- The remaining cost, approx. \$67k, will be included in the 2023/24 Highway budget
- Timing of next CIP Intake form (Dispatch system replacement for Fire Dept.)
 - Randy reported that this has to happen, as it's a multi-town initiative
 - The total cost is approximately \$31,000, spread out over 10 years, or a little over \$3,000 annual cost for the town
- Attending Select Board meetings for 2023/2024 budget input - the December SB meetings will have agenda items for budget reviews, so BC members will be encouraged to attend
- Providing the 2023/2024 Capital Budget to the Select Board - we'll work on this in our next meeting
- Scheduling the next meeting - consensus was to hold it prior to the first SB meeting in December, so the next meeting will be Tuesday, Nov. 29th, @ 4:30 PM

The meeting was adjourned at 5:22.

Date Created	Action Item #	Assignee	Action Item	Due Date	Date Closed
11/01/22	14	Mark	Contact Victor and Eric on how they want to handle gravel replacement budgeting going forward	11/4/22	11/3/22
11/01/22	15	Mark	Ask Dorinda to attend the next Budget Committee meeting to explain fund usage	11/15/22	11/20/22