

COUNCIL MEETING/BUDGET WORKSHOP
Thursday, April 4, 2019
Bucksport Town Office Council Chambers

6:00 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

*Mark Eastman, Paul Bissonnette, Peter Stewart, Daniel Ormsby.
Members Absent: David Kee, Paul Gauvin, Robert Carmichael, Jr.*

2. APPOINTMENTS – COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Motioned by Councilor Eastman, seconded by Councilor Ormsby to approve attached list of Committee Appointments as presented. Vote: 4 - 0

3. BUDGET OVERVIEW

Town Manager presented an overall 2019-2020 proposed budgets for General Fund, Capital Projects Fund, Sewer and the Marina indicating many moving pieces impacting these budgets. Town Manager feels confident that the town will be able to meet the Council goals for a stable mil rate for this year, and still be able to make progress on many of the goals that the Council has identified.

4. PROTECTION

a. Streets & Roads

Town Manager indicated the General Highway proposed budget shows an 8.69% increase mostly due to increase of 32.42% or \$58,590 for pavement of Roads.

Councilor Stewart noted that salt is put on roads, than it melts, it freezes, than have to go back over roads with sand. Isn't there a better way of doing business?

Town Manager indicated that she and Jay Lanpher, Public Works Director have spoken about altering time to better manage treating the Roads soonerr than later.

Councilor Stewart asked if the entire roads indicated, Russell Hill, Church, Masthill, Turkey Path, Bucksmills Roads are being paved or just certain sections?

Jay, Public Works Director indicated that he has five (5) miles of pavement to put down on these roads.

Councilor Stewart indicated that we are always playing catch up and feel we need to fix the roads right and not just pave sections of roads.

Town Manager noted that you will see in the Capital Improvement Plan that if you choose to paved entire road, not do sections, than it will require a bond which will have to go out to the voter's at the November Election for approval.. Once all roads are caught up, than proceed with putting down (5) five miles of pavement each year.

Councilor Bissonnette noted with the potential cost to repave the entire listed roads suggested it might be useful to contact MDOT to gather information on value of sand verses salt.

Town Manager indicated that MDOT has offered to come before the Council before and will contact them.

Councilor Stewart questioned the Public Works Directors' wages? Is it 10% increase, and asked that it be reviewed.

Town Manager indicated only a 3% increase.

Councilor Stewart questions on no new pavement on sidewalk?

Jay noted no new pavement for sidewalk is scheduled.

Councilor Stewart indicated that he hates seeing large balances in accounts if it is not being used.

b. Transfer Station

Town Manager indicated an overall proposed budget for Transfer Station shows a 1.75% or \$4,577 increase. The hauling, tipping and district fees are all decreased. The reduction in tipping fee for recycling went from \$145/ton to \$40/ton with the contract through Fiber-right.

c. Town Garage

Town Manager indicated an overall proposed budget for Town Garage shows a 1.09% or \$216 increase. The Electricity and Fuel Heating shows a decrease with the help of solar panels and the use of old gas brought into transfer station to be used for fueling the furnace at the Highway Department..

Councilor Stewart inquired about the Internet and Fax Line.

Town Manager indicated because of the new phone system, internet is required.

Councilor Stewart inquired about the use of different companies for Cell-phones and noted different charges to each department. Why can't we consolidate or at least get same package with same pricing for each department.

5. ADJOURN

Motioned by Councilor Ormsby, seconded by Councilor Bissonnette and unanimously voted that the meeting be adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 6:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kathy L. Downes
Council Secretary*