

MONROE TOWN COUNCIL AND BOARD OF FINANCE
Monroe, Connecticut

Budget Workshop Session
Wednesday
February 24, 2016
8:00 PM
Monroe Town Hall
Annex Conference Area

A Budget Workshop Session was held on Wednesday, February 25, 2016 at 8:00 p.m. in the Annex Conference Area of the Monroe Town Hall.

- Present:** Chairman Frank Lieto
Councilmember Nicholas Kapoor
Councilmember Phyllis Kansky
Councilmember Kenneth Kellogg
Councilmember Dee Dee Martin
Councilmember Sean O'Rourke
Councilmember Kevin Reid
Councilmember Terry Rooney
- Absent:** Vice-Chairman Enid Lipeles
- Not Present:** First Selectman Stephen J. Vavrek

BOARD OF FINANCE: Ron Bunovsky, Director of Finance, Heidi Meade, Deputy Director of Finance

Chairman Lieto called the Joint Budget Workshop Session to order at 8:07 p.m.

Barbara Yeager was present during the meeting to follow up on the Senior Center attendance. Ms. Yeager presented a print out of all active seniors at the Monroe Senior Center ranging from ages 55-85+. She noted people come and go and some people age out. She noted there are many people in the 85+ category but they are also seeing younger members. Councilmember Kansky questioned the senior population and was told approximately 5,786 being 55+ (29% of the population).

Councilmember Kapoor had some questions regarding the building permit revenue, bond interest subsidiaries, office expenses and legal expenses on the First Selectman line, EMS (2 lines well under budget), and medical supplies.

Councilmember Kansky questioned the concept of the additional planner for the Engineer and she would like to see him get some help. She would also like to see a part-time position for the Economic Development Commission.

Councilmember Reid noted it was important to look at the budget in totality and the longevity of the town and to be fiscally responsible, and to make sure we are prioritizing. He stated the budget should be a reflection of our priorities.

Councilmember Kellogg stated during last year's process, tactical improvements were made that were necessary. He also noted we need to be careful the departments are doing a good job.

Councilmember O'Rourke stated looking at the demographics and population growth, we should try to flatten out as much as possible to decrease in spending. He feels this is a difficult process.

Chairman Lieto noted he was proud of the advances we made from the investments made such as the paramedic programs and senior center.

DEPARTMENTS

First Selectman

0005-150001 – First Selectman Salary Admin- Elected Increase

Motion passed 8-0

0005-150003 – First Selectman Salary Other- Rollback to prior year rate

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

0005-150005 – First Selectman Salary PT – Rollback to prior year

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

0005-153385 – First Selectman Office Expense

Motion: (N. Kapoor)

To reduce First Selectman Office Expense by \$1,000.

Second: (D. Martin)

Motion passed 8-0

Town Council

0010-150021 – Town Council Clerk – Rollback to prior year rate

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

0010-153385 – Town Council Office Expense

Motion: (D. Martin)

Reduce office expense by \$250.00

Second: (N. Kapoor)

Motion passed 8-0

Board of Finance

0020-150021 – Board of Finance Clerk – Rollback to prior year rate

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

Registrar of Voters

0030-150001 – ROV Salary Admin – Reduce ROV Admin Salaries

Motion passed 8-0

0030-150003 – ROV Salary Other – Move Deputy Hourly to all Salary

Motion: (N. Kapoor)

To increase \$2,700 and remove hourly and make deputy salary \$10,000 each, a net gain of \$2,700.

Second: (D Martin)

Amend Motion: (F. Lieto)

To reduce the \$10,000 figure to \$9,000 for both Deputy Registrars.

Second: (N. Kapoor)

Motion passed 8-0

Town Clerk

0040-150001 – Town Clerk Salary Admin – Elected Increase

Motion passed 8-0

0040-150005 – Town Clerk Salaries PT – Rollback to prior year rate

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

0040-15385 – Town Clerk Office Expense

Motion: (D. Martin)

To take out \$1,000

Second: (N. Kapoor)

Motion passed fails 3-5 (*opposed Rooney, Kellogg, Reid, O'Rourke, Lieto*)

Tax Collector

0050-150001 – Tax Collector Salary Admin – Elected Increase

Motion passed 8-0

0050-150005 – Tax Collector Salaries PT – Rollback to prior year

Motion: (F. Lieto)

To restore hourly rates and hours to what they were last year.

Motion Withdrawn

Motion: (F. Lieto)

To increase from \$15.00 to \$16.00

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

0050-153385 – Tax Collector Office Expense

Motion: (N. Kapoor)

To reduce office expense by \$3,000

Second: (D. Martin)

Amend Motion: (K. Kellogg)

To reduce office expense by \$9,050.

Second: (S. O'Rourke)

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

Treasurer

0060-150001 – Treasury Salary Admin – Elected Increase

Motion passed 8-0

Senior Center

0080-150005 – Senior Center Salaries Part Time – Rollback to prior year rate

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

Amend Motion: (N. Kapoor)

To take out the elimination absent the building attendant and absent building front desk attendant.

Second: (D. Martin)

Motion fails 3-5 (*opposed Rooney, Kellogg, Reid, O'Rourke, Lieto*)

Original Motion: (F. Lieto)

To rollback to prior year rate

Second: (K. Reid)

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

Economic Development & Commission

0090-150001 – EDC Salary Admin

Motion: (N. Kapoor)

To increase 150001 to \$30,000 and applicable overhead

Second: (D. Martin)

Motion fails 3-5 (*opposed Rooney, Kellogg, Reid, O'Rourke, Lieto*)

Human Resources

0110-150001 – Director of HR Salary Admin – Move to Wage adjustment

Motion passed 6-2 (**opposed Martin, Kapoor**)

0110-150003 – PT Human Resource Assistant - Rollback to prior year rate

Motion: (F. Lieto)

To restore rate to \$18.00 an hour

Second: (S. O'Rourke)

Motion passed 8-0

0110-15620 – HR Wage Adjustments – Move to wage adjustment/result salary change

Motion passed 6-2

0110-153415 – HR Personnel Administration

Motion: (N. Kapoor)

To reduce by \$2,700.

Second: (D. Martin)
Motion passed 8-0

Finance

0120-150001 – Finance Salary Admin – Move to wage adjustment
Motion passed 6-2

0120-150003 – Finance Salary Other – move to wage adjustment
Motion passed 6-2

0120-150005 – Finance Salary – PT – rollback to prior year rate
Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

Technology

0125-150003 – IT Salary

Motion: (N. Kapoor)

To reduce by \$6,000

Second: (D. Martin)

Motion fails 3-5 (*opposed Rooney, Kellogg, Reid, O'Rourke, Lieto*)

Assessor

0130-150003 – Assessor's Assistant

Motion: (F. Lieto)

To reduce the increase deputy assessor to what it was last year.

Withdraw Motion

Engineering

0140-150001 – Salary Admin – move to wage adjustment

Motion passed 6-2

Inland Wetlands

0145-150001 – I/W Salary Admin – Move to wage adjustment

Motion passed 6-2

0145-150003 – I/W Salary Other – Eliminate New FT Position

Motion: (F. Lieto)

To eliminate the full time position but increase the hours

Second: (K. Kellogg)

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

0145-150005 – I/W Salary PT – Restore PT Position/increase hours

Motion passed 5-3

Building

0150-150003 – Building Salary Other

Motion: (K. Reid)

The administrative assistant remains the same as last year

Second: (S. O'Rourke)

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

Planning & Zoning /Enforcement – None

Town Hall Maintenance (Under Public Works)

0161-151000 – Heat – Reduction to Chalk Hill

Motion passed 8-0

0161-151010 – Light & Power – Reduction to Chalk Hill

Motion passed 8-0

0161-151040 – Water – Reduction to Chalk Hill

Motion passed 8-0

0161-151075 – Contracted Services – Reduction to Chalk Hill

Motion passed 8-0

0161-15390 – Operating Expense – Reduction to Chalk Hill

Motion passed 8-0

Police

0300-150001 – Police Salary Admin – Move to wage adjustment

Motion passed 6-2

0300-150003 – Police Salary Other – Fix Longevity

Motion passed 8-0

Animal Control

0315-150005 – AC Salary PT – Rollback to prior year rate

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

Fire Marshal

0440-150005 – Fire Marshal Salary PT – Rollback to prior year rate

Motion: (F. Lieto)

To rollback to prior year rate and hours

Second: (S. O'Rourke)

Motion passed 5-3

EMS

0460-153520 – EMS Supplemental Approp – Reduction in Operating Expense. Commission changes move FICA/Medicare to HR

Motion: (N. Kapoor)

To make a reduction 7 1/2 thousand in Operating Expenses

Second: (K. Reid)

Motion passed 8-0

Motion: (K. Kellogg)

To line item 153045, building maintenance from \$7,000 to \$10,000

To line item 155000, fuel expense from \$3,000 to \$12,000

To Line item Total Line153565 Utilities, increase \$8,000

Part Time Administrator – increase to \$40,000

Second: (K. Reid)

Motion passed 8-0

Public Works

0500-150001 – PW Salary Admin – move to Wage Adjustment

Motion passed 6-2

0500-150003 – PW Salary Other – Rollback to prior year rate

Motion: (N. Kapoor)

To increase \$33,760 and all applicable overhead

Second: (D. Martin)

Motion fails 3-5 (*opposed Rooney, O'Rourke, Kellogg, Reid, Lieto*)

Amend Motion: (F. Lieto)

To rollback to prior year rate

Second: (K. Reid)

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

0500-150005 – PW Salaries PT – Rollback to prior year rate

Motion: (N. Kapoor)

To reduce PT Clerical to zero

Second: (D. Martin)

Motion fails 3-5 (*opposed Rooney, O'Rourke, Kellogg, Reid, Lieto*)

Amend Motion: (F. Lieto)

To rollback to prior year rate

Second: (K. Reid)

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

0600-150005 – PW Sol Waste Salary PT – Rollback to prior year rate

Motion: (F. Lieto)

To rollback to \$10.25

Second: (K. Kellogg)

Motion passed 5-3 (*opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky*)

Health Department

0700-153520 – Health Department Supp Approp – move to Wage Adjustment

Motion passed 6-2

Social Services

Motion: (N. Kapoor)

To reduce line item 580 by \$500.00 and increase line item 485 by \$15,000.

Second: (D. Martin)

Restate Motion (N. Kapoor)

To move \$500 vehicle expense to R & M equipment and add for a net gain of \$15,000

Second: (D. Martin)

Motion fails 3-5 (opposed Rooney, Kellogg, Reid, O'Rourke, Lieto)

0710-150005 – Social Service Salary PT – Rollback to prior year rate

Motion: (F. Lieto)

Rollback to prior year rate but leaves increase for custodian

Motion passed 5-3 (opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky)

Library

0800-150005 – Library Salary PT – Rollback to prior year rate

Motion: (F. Lieto)

To rollback to prior year rate

Second: (S. O'Rourke)

Motion passed 5-3 (opposed Martin, Kapoor, Kansky)

Parks and Recreation - None

0810-150001 – P &R Salary Admin – move to Wage adjustment

Motion passed 6-2

There being no further questions, Chairman Lieto adjourned the meeting at 12:00 a.m.

This meeting meets accessibility requirements for the disabled. Those persons requiring special accommodations should contact the First Selectman's Office as soon as possible at 452-2821.