

Town of Cornish
Budget Public Hearing
Thursday, February 4, 2016 7:00pm

John Hammond reviewed the main budget informing the attendees that hourly employees were receiving a 2% across the board raise. There was also a 3.4% increase in health insurance which the town will pay.

The following questions were asked by audience members re: main budget:

Q. Larry Dingee asked about the insurance line – if it was underspent last year, why level fund.

A. Heidi Jaarsma explained that we were currently in transition as the current carrier's coverage will end on July 1, 2016. We decided to level fund it this year as it is unknown what the actual cost will be.

Q. Sand line in the Highway budget.

A. Wayne Gray, Road Agent explained we had a better quality sand now on top of the fact that it has been a mild winter. He felt that reducing that line by \$10,000.00 would still allow for ample sand if the need arises.

John Hammond also explained the increase in the culvert line under the Highway budget was due to Road Agents plan to replace more failing culverts this summer.

Warrant Articles

Q. Larry Dingee asked about the replacement of the dump truck this year. He commented that as a member of the Heavy Equipment Committee that there was discussion about replacing the loader. He was under the impression that a decision had yet to be made as to which piece of equipment was going to be replaced.

A. Scott Baker commented that perhaps that the decision to replace the dump truck was made after Larry had left that meeting. He further explained that the decision to replace the truck was based on further investigation of the Sterling truck which had severe rust issues on cross members and mechanical issues with the engine. Scott did comment that another Heavy Equipment meeting has been called for Wednesday, 2/6.

Q. Bill Caterino questioned the warrant article for the James C. Kibbey scholarship fund. He thought that it would be worthwhile to also include something for the students at the Cornish School as far as enrichment was concerned.

A. Dale Lawrence spoke up to say that the school has two enrichment accounts, one that was set up by donations and two that is within the CES budget itself. These funds are available for staff to request enrichment activities, speakers, etc...

John Hammond asked if there were any further questions regarding the 2016 budget. There were none. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Dale Lawrence