

Town Meeting from page 8

have a plan, just in case, for getting people and emergency vehicles in and out, even if just temporarily.

Vicky: There are temporary bridges that they can put over the river.

Lynn George: Two places in the budget show the grader operator for \$21,000.

Marj: It's an error.

Toby: What's going on with the beaver deceiver? Why do you have \$5,000 in there if they only cost \$2,500?

Vicky: Whenever we do a major project near beaver activity, we're going to use a beaver deceiver to prevent them from blocking up the culvert. We're planning to put in one this year, but we've budgeted for a second one in case a culvert fails unexpectedly this year, as one did last year.

Lynn: We're hiring the two part-time Town employees as full-time now, which means benefits. Doesn't that have to be voted on?

Marj: It doesn't.

Lynn: Part of the vote last year was that we wouldn't hire them as full-time this year. I'd like to amend the budget to keep them as part-time.

John Thompson, Road Agent: The intention never was to keep them part-time forever. The intention was to start them part-time, see how it went, and come back to Town Meeting with updates and changes as this change went along. That's what we're doing tonight. The choice is still yours. We're just putting out there what we feel is the best service for the Town for the best cost.

John Kinney: Has anybody considered adding a third part-time employee?

Jim Delaney, Selectman: It would cost more than making the two part-time employees full-time.

Marj: We have a spreadsheet that shows that the highway, cemetery, beach, ballpark, and Town Office work the two part-time employees did saved us \$106,388 overall.

Pecco Beaufays: The beach and the streets have never looked better than during the last year. (Applause.)

Lynn: They did such a great job last year working part-time that we should keep them as part-time again this year.

John Thompson: One major confu-

sion is that the labor budget covers more than just the two new full-time positions. It also includes the grader operator and anyone else we have to hire for special jobs.

Marj: It would take me a few minutes to work up a number for what the increase from part-time to full-time would cost. But it's not a huge amount.

There followed an extensive, detailed discussion about what that number might be and all the different line items it would impact. Vicky estimates the increased cost from part-time to full-time is \$10,000. The crowd seems to think that's too low.

Brad Hardie: My understanding of last year's vote was that we were going to try it out. As Pecco said, the town looks great. I think as taxpayers we have to think about quality of life for people who work for us and you only get what you pay for. I think we're going to get a better quality product by having two full-time people who are invested in the community. Everyone here wants to work at a place that has healthcare. I think it's ridiculous for us as taxpayers not to do the same for the people who serve us. (Applause.)

The motion to keep the part-time employees part-time is withdrawn.

Herbie Barton: Single-stream recycling (SSR) is costing us more per ton to send out than it costs to send out regular garbage. If we get rid of SSR, we won't need a third person at the Transfer Station. We could recycle cardboard but send the rest to Penacook to burn it.

Andy Guptill: I move we reduce the Transfer Station line by \$6,943 in order to get rid of SSR. That would give you enough money to take the 200 tons that was going into SSR and pay for it to be transported as trash.

Jim Delaney: I understand your concern, but if you cut the SSR line item, then we have to buy two balers to handle the cardboard for recycling. So we have to find what it will cost for two balers and go back to the old way, which I don't have any problem with at all.

Herbie: My thought is to use the SSR compactor just for cardboard so you won't have to buy a baler. It's common sense.

The motion to amend the Transfer Station line item fails.

Toby: Why is there \$3,000 for getting rid of glass.

Marj: We can't keep stacking it there. We have to get rid of it.

Vicky: We can get rid of the glass at \$30 per ton. If it's in the SSR, it costs \$74 per ton. If it's in the trash, it costs \$65 per ton. We would like to continue SSR, but keep glass on the side to get the big savings over the SSR rate.

Andy Guptill: After hearing Budget Committee's explanation of the tax impact of the proposed budget, I crunched some numbers myself. Taking the total budget plus the warrant articles minus the revenues, I get \$911,472. Last year's amount was \$1,021,829. That means the amount to be raised by taxes would be a reduction, not a \$300,000 increase.

Ed Hiller: Last year we had non-tax revenue from a capital reserve fund of \$225,000 and a small amount from the technology fund. That reduced the amount last year and makes the difference between last year and this year an increase.

A vote is called, and Article 2 passes. A motion to restrict reconsideration of Article 2 is made and passes.

Article 3: Capital Reserve Funds

Article 3 passes with no discussion.

Article 4: Expendable Trust Funds

Article 4 passes with no discussion.

Article 5: Forest Fire Truck

Arch Weathers: The Budget Committee is not recommending this article, but it's not a stamp of disapproval by any means. We deliberated about this

quite a bit. It's a new capital item, and our plate was pretty full with other expenses.

The fact that the Capital Improvement Plan committee is at work means it makes sense for this to be one of the items they consider. There isn't any question in the Budget Committee's mind that this is a piece of equipment that is needed. Our firefighters are using their own equipment, so it's a no-brainer to me that this is something that will be recommended next year. But we felt it could wait one more year.

Mr. Sava: Taking your own vehicle to a forest fire is something you don't want to do. It's not going to get any cheaper. Maybe we can cut money somewhere else. Trust me, you will need that truck.

Jim Delaney: The selectmen are for it because insurance companies are not going to cover our firefighters using their own vehicles for a forest fire. Who's going to pay for any damage?

It will be used for more than just forest fires. It will be a multi-use vehicle for the Fire Department for times when we don't need to send a big fire truck.

Pecco Beaufays: We've got to keep them safe so they can keep us safe.

Herbie Barton: How many times have we needed a truck like this over the last two or three years?

Steve Barton: It varies. You might use it three times, you might use it 10 times. We would have used it four times last year. Right now, the members use their

See Town Meeting on page 9

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