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Pat Frost

Andover, NH
Phone: 603 455.8870
frostbuilding@comcast.net



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ing, specifically for metal, though this would not offset major cost burden.

A new trash trailer was purchased outright from funds received last year. A pusher snow plow for the bobcat is on a line which will be a one-time cost and could be used to plow the yard during staff hours. The highway will continue to be responsible for after-hours plowing.

The transfer station has hired a septic designer, and contractors are coming in to set up a project to install a toilet. Funds for this have already been encumbered. This project is already financed. This will eliminate the need for a port-a-potty in the future.

Will the transfer station consider recycling plastics? There had been a posting in the *Beacon* to gather interested parties to start a recycling committee; there was no interest. Single stream plastic recycling costs were quite high.

The overflow container rental was discussed; it does not appear to be needed at this time. Snow removal on containers was also discussed. Toby recommended a drag, to be able to self-shovel the containers. Snow can add a considerable weight to the containers, which impacts the overall cost.

The board discussed that the hauler has to come to the transfer station during open station hours because there is no person who allows them into the transfer station when it is closed. This does cause trash buildup in the mornings, due to this scheduling issue. Greasing the trailer is another element of concern. It was noted there is no contract with the hauling company. Guptill said the Select Board is working on establishing a contract.

Highway Department

The highway department budget was reviewed by Guptill. Costs for wages and snow plowing. The mileage of the four routes have been re-balanced so that each contract is the same dollar amount. Contracts were reviewed. In comparing contracts between last and this year, the difference is relatively close. Last year, the town also paid rental fees above and beyond the contracts. The contracts are a flat fee per six month season, rather than per snowstorm. There is fluctuation due to having to pay hourly employees for some snow storms. Increases to the Plow and Sand line are due to some increases in contract fees, some increases in hourly pay, and some cushion. The rest of the labor lines were reviewed.

The department has a new contract at much less cost for town roadside mowing.

Other lines that have increased include culverts, maintenance of equipment, fuel, small tools, projects (roadside mowing), portable lavatory, street signs, uniforms, salt, and calcium. These all were explained.

Lines that have decreased include grader operator, cold patch, grass/ hay/ mulch, equipment rentals, BW park / beach mowing and maintenance wages, and beaver deceiver maintenance.

Guptill spoke to past boards who wanted work billed to separate lines and essentially categorize the labor (i.e. one line for cemetery repair, one line for BW park field maintenance, etc.). The budget presented has these lines zeroed out, with effort to consolidate the labor lines and not have each of these responsibilities itemized in the overall budget. The total budget proposed is similar to the 2019 highway department budget.

Adjournment

On October 27, the Budget Committee will review the following budgets: Cemeteries, EMS, Forest Fire, Fourth of July, Police, Conservation Commission, Town Buildings, Executive, Financial, Assessing, Legal, Personnel Administration, Welfare, Insurance, IT.

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