

HOODLAND FIRE DISTRICT # 74
2ND BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
MAY 28, 2020

Those Present: Board Members: Shirley Dueber, Mary Ellen Fitzgerald (Zoom Conference), Jacob Rackley and Cliff Fortune. Budget Committee Members: Gretchen McAbery, Gaynell Thornbrough (Zoom Conference), Sally Chester, Dwight Pallander, and Kirk Peterson (Zoom Conference). Staff: Steve Abel; Interim Fire Chief, Carol Norgard; Financial Manager, DC Scott Kline, Lt. Andy Figini (Zoom Conference), and SFF James Lucas.

1. Call to Order: By Dwight Pallander at 7:00 PM.
2. Roll Call: With the meeting being offered as a Zoom Conference, a roll call was performed.
3. Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Scott Kline.
4. Election of Budget Committee Officers (Completed on May 14, 2020).
 - A. Chairperson – Dwight Pallander.
 - B. Secretary – Gretchen McAbery.
5. Receive Budget Message (Completed on May 14, 2020).
6. Review and Act of the Budget Document.
 - A. Budget Updates.
 - i. Health plan was changed to a higher deductible plan. This saved the district \$25,000. We also have funds held in order to cover the difference in the out of pocket maximums for the employees.
 - ii. Uncollected taxes are projected to be higher this year, but this will be temporary and the money will be received in later years.
 - B. Budget Overview.
 - i. \$120,000 was borrowed from the Building Reserve to balance the budget and \$60,000 was added to the Building Reserve to pay back the previous loan.

6. B. Review and Act on Budget – Budget Overview Continued

ii. Draft budget supports 7 line firefighters. Not sure if this will be sustainable in the future, because the budget continues to run a deficit maintaining 7 line firefighters.

iii. There are some more minor cuts than can be made, but funds can be moved around in between line items as long as they stay within their category (Materials & Services, Capital Outlay, or Personnel Services) without requiring a Supplemental Budget.

iv. In Capital Outlay, funds have only been appropriated in case they need to be spent on larger ticket items.

v. \$750,000.00 had to be cut out the original budget projections in order to balance the budget.

C. Budget Committee Comments.

i. Mary Ellen Fitzgerald: Budget Members please speak up and provide your input.

ii. Gaynell Thornbrough: If there is too much more cutting of the budget, we could be sorry. Hoping for better tax collection and revenue in 2021-2022 Budget.

iii. Gretchen McAbery: Doing more “nickel and dime” cuts is not going to make a big enough difference. The draft budget is balanced and meets the desires of the community. 24 hour coverage provides better service but it may not be able to be supported in the future.

iv. Sally Chester: Paid staff should have been more involved in the Budget process. Suggestion to schedule a third budget meeting to allow the paid staff the opportunity to be more involved so they are not feeling left out.

v. Kirk Peterson: Thanks to the Interim Fire Chief and the Board for the work that you have done under difficult circumstances. Not optimistic about property tax collections rates being as expected.

vi. Cliff Fortune: This has been a long and difficult process to narrow the budget down. Strategic Planning meetings will be starting next month in June 2020. Members can be involved in the Strategic Planning and have input.

6. C. Review and Act on Budget – Budget Committee Comments Continued

- vii. Jacob Rackley: Budget input was provided by the career staff when they submitted their budget requests. There were also Union negotiations where the staff had the opportunity to come up with plans to balance the budget. Because of the cuts that had to be made to balance the budget, no one is going to be happy.

D. State Requirements for Budgeting Deadlines in place.

- i. If we are going to have additional meetings, we need to allow for enough time to advertise, hold budget hearings, adopt the budget, and deliver final copies to Clackamas County.

7. Determine the Next Step in the Budget Process.

A. Recess. Not needed

B. Adopt the budget.

MOTION MADE: I, Gaynell Thornbrough move that the Hoodland Fire District No. 74 budget committee approve taxes for the 2020-2021 fiscal year at the permanent rate of \$2.6385 per \$1,000 of assessed value and \$0.25 per \$1,000 of assessed value for the local option tax for all funds to levy taxes. For operating purposes: for total expenditures not to exceed \$5,783,904.00 and we approve the attached 2020-2021 budget as submitted.

2ND: Gretchen McAbery.

DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE: Passed Eight Ayes (Gretchen McAbery, Dwight Pallander, Gaynell Thornbrough, Kirk Peterson, Cliff Fortune, Shirley Dueber, Mary Ellen Fitzgerald, Jacob Rackley) and One Nay (Sally Chester)

8. Adjournment.

MOTION MADE: By Shirley Dueber to adjourn the meeting.

2ND: By Gretchen McAbery.

DISCUSSION: None.

VOTE: Passed Unanimously, Meeting adjourned at 8:09 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carolyn M. Norgard

Carolyn M. Norgard, Financial Manager

Notes Typed By: Kelli Ewing, Administrative Assistant