

## ADMINISTRATION BUDGET SESSION

MARCH 2, 2010

At an ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET SESSION of the Town Council of the Town of South Kingstown, County of Washington, in the State of Rhode Island, convened at the Town Hall, in and for said Town on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of March 2010 at 6:40 PM.

PRESENT: Kathleen A. Fogarty, President  
Mary S. Eddy, Vice President  
Carol Hagan McEntee  
James W. O'Neill  
Ella M. Whaley

Also present: Stephen A. Alfred, Town Manager, Alan R. Lord, Finance Director, Andrew Nota, Director of Administrative Services, Jon Schock, Director of Public Services, Terry Murphy, Director of Leisure Services, Karen Turcotte, Senior Center Director, Lucien Masson, Water Superintendent, Bernie Bishop, Wastewater Superintendent, William Boardman, Town Engineer, Joseph DiNoble, Highway Superintendent, Rex Eberly, Parks Superintendent, and Cathy Larlham, Recreation Superintendent.

Jon Schock, Director of Public Services is present and discussion ensues relative to Public Services Department – Engineering Division (0910). This division oversees design and construction of public works infrastructure. Funding in the amount of \$253,272 is proposed for FY 2010-2011, representing an \$811 increase compared with the current year appropriation.

Discussion ensues relative to the Streets and Highway Division (0920). Funding in the amount of \$1,738,861 is requested for the FY 2010-2011, which is \$55,975 less than the current year appropriation.

Discussion ensues relative to the Tree Management Program (0950). Funding in the amount of \$22,641 is requested for the FY 2010-2011, representing a \$1,343 reduction compared with the current year appropriation.

Discussion ensues relative to Street Lighting (0960). Funding is proposed in the amount of \$170,000, representing a \$20,000 decrease compared with the current year appropriation.

Discussion ensues relative to the Wastewater Fund Transfer (0970). The Town's On-Site Wastewater Management Program oversees 6,300 properties that utilize on-site wastewater disposal systems. A General Fund transfer of \$9,000 is requested for the FY 2010-2011.

Discussion ensues relative to the Water Enterprise Fund. The Water Enterprise Fund provides for all costs and services associated with the South Shore and Middlebridge Water Systems. A Water Division Program in the amount of \$959,361 is proposed for the FY 2010-2011, a \$20,122 more than the current year. Over the past four years the

## ADMINISTRATION BUDGET SESSION

MARCH 2, 2010

depreciation associated with the physical plant has been recognized as an expense. This year the depreciation expense is proposed at \$180,047. This fund generates income based on the user fees. A rate increase in the excess charge to \$2.71 per 100 cu. ft. is proposed for the FY 2010-2011. Cell antenna lease revenue is proposed in the amount of \$220,293. There are no property tax dollars that go into this Enterprise Fund.

Discussion ensues relative to the Wastewater Enterprise Fund. The Wastewater System is a regional partnership of the University of Rhode Island, Narragansett and South Kingstown. South Kingstown serves as the managing partner. There are approximately 3,592 service accounts with approximately 5,398 units within the district. The proposed FY 2010-2011 operating program is \$3,314,219 or \$3,569 less than the current year program. As with the Water Fund, there are no property tax dollars that go into this Enterprise Fund and this fund also generates income based on the user fees. The depreciation associated with this account is only that which is for South Kingstown's share. The depreciation for the FY 2010-2011 is proposed at \$342,000.

Discussion ensues relative to the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund. The Solid Waste Fund is a regional partnership of the Towns of South Kingstown and Narragansett for the operation of the Rose Hill Regional Transfer Station. Again, South Kingstown serves as the managing partner. The biggest challenge is to increase the recycling in both Narragansett and South Kingstown. Narragansett has no system in place for organized recycling.

From 2005 to date South Kingstown's diversion rate has increased from 9% to 28%. Narragansett does not have a curb side program, so if you factor out their recycling versus the Town of South Kingstown, it is estimated that our diversion rate is 37% which exceeds the state requirement. We currently have six licensed commercial haulers that are qualified to pick up curbside in South Kingstown. Two haulers have been in compliance since the program was implemented and exceed the Town's diversion rate, two are very close in the high twenties, and the other two are in the teens. The haulers that are not meeting the diversion have been given a conditional six month license. The recycling rate for those people using the bag/tag program for the Transfer Station from both South Kingstown and Narragansett exceeds 40%.

Based on the five year contract that we have with the operator of the Transfer Station the bag/tag fees will have to increase from \$1.70 to \$1.80 per bag. The increase will be implemented for July 1, 2010. No property taxes go toward the financing of this program: all expenses are paid for through the user fees.

Terry Murphy, Director of Leisure Services is present. The positions of Parks and Recreation Director and Senior Services Director have been combined into Director of Leisure Services. Discussion ensues relative to the Parks and Recreation Department funding in the amount of \$1,317,088 is proposed for FY 2010-2011, a reduction of

## ADMINISTRATION BUDGET SESSION

MARCH 2, 2010

\$3,381 compared with the current year's adopted budget of \$1,320,469. This budget has the following components: general administration, maintenance division, athletics programs, aquatic programs, leisure services programs, creative activities program.

Discussion ensues relative to Celebrations. Funding in the amount of \$7,000 is proposed for the FY 2010-2011 for the Veterans Day, Memorial Day and Fireman's Parades.

Helen Farrell Allen is present and asks a question relative to the elimination of funding for the Wakefield Band. Because of their success and popularity in the community the Wakefield Band has become self-sufficient: that is why funding has been eliminated.

Discussion ensues relative to the Peace Dale Office Building. The budget for the FY 2010-2011 is proposed at \$81,606 representing a \$2,874 increase. Total revenue is proposed at \$93,080, representing \$11,474 more in revenue than expenses which will be transferred to the undesignated fund balance for the Peace Dale Office Building.

Discussion ensues relative to the Neighborhood Guild. The budget for the FY 2010-2011 is proposed at \$817,614 representing a \$32,044 reduction compared with the current adopted budget. Funding in the amount of \$348,000 is proposed from the Guild Trust Fund representing level funding with the current year. This represents 41% of the complete Guild operating program.

Discussion ensues relative to the Senior Services Department. The proposed operating budget of FY 2010-2011 is \$714,648 which is a \$38,372 less than the current year funding.

Discussion ensues relative to the Senior Transportation Program. Funding in the amount of \$69,232 is proposed for FY 2010-2011 representing a \$10,158 or 12.8% decrease from the current year budget of \$79,390.

Discussion ensues relative to Senior Nutrition Program. Funding in the amount of \$101,632 is proposed for the FY 2010-2011 representing a decrease of \$1,744 or 1.7% less than the current year budget of \$103,376.

Discussion ensues relative to the Adult Day Services Program. Funding in the amount of \$290,106 is proposed for the FY 2010-2011 representing \$3,473 or 9.7% less than the current year budget of \$293,579.

Adjourn at 8:40 PM.

ADJOURNED,

Dale S. Holberton, CMC  
Town Clerk