

Town of Effingham  
Budget Committee  
December 13, 2016

Present: Jim Morris, Mike Pilkovsky, Leo Racine & Dave Strauss, Mellisa Seamans.

Excused: Paul Bartoswicz

Select Board Present Lawrence Edwards, Lenny Espie, Henry Spencer.

Other(s) Present: (Admin Asst.) Sheryl Feirrick.

1. Meeting		Called to order 6:45 p.m.
2. Approval	Motion	Approved minutes of 12/06/16.  Majority approved
3. Budget Committee	Discussion	Budget to Actual review.  4130-Salaries question concerning 106% over budget. It was noted that 4152-Assessing salary will be merged into this line item compensating for being over budget.  Select Board (SB) policy for employee raises was debated. SB rep. noted that they do not have an approved policy even though the 2015 budget committee had recommended one.  Concerns on the overall bottom line being at 100% with three weeks left of operation. It was noted that 4902 for 232K which was the new mini-pumper fire truck was causing an accounting offset that really made the bottom less than 100%.  Revenue sheet was requested and noted it was provided last month.  Fairpoint settlement was quoted at 15K.
4. Select Board Bridge Budget	Discussion	It was noted SB rep. had not provided the Bridge Budget as expected from last meeting.  SB rep. covered how exact figures had not been decided by the board. He estimates \$278K for granite but could go as high as \$400K. Stevens road is expected to be \$120K which is in the budget. HEB had provided estimates for Snow road at \$1,000,020 to \$900K which was if the town built to state standards. It was noted the Select Board has previously voted 2-1 to not pursue state funding for Granite road bridge.  Suggestions on having Bridge bids based on acceptance by the town meeting.  Contracting bridge services out to bid or performing services in house was debated.

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4. Select Board Bridge Budget (continued)	(continued) Discussion	<p>Request for proposals vice formal bids were considered.</p> <p>Performing Snow road bridge before Granite road bridge pros and cons were debated.</p> <p>It was suggested the town might benefit if it had an Engineering line item to handle town work.</p> <p>SB rep. suggested the board would be asking for \$200K to \$275K for the bridge fund.</p> <p>Effects of the town tax rate were discussed concerning this increase.</p> <p>SB rep. covered status of the injunction for Stevens's road bridge.</p> <p>Public input had noted that state bridge aid will have a reduction in shared cost to the towns in coming year. Also noted that a one million 10 year bond has an interest rate of 1.73% through the bond bank.</p>
5. Budget Committee	Discussion	<p>Covered the importance of using the master plan as a guide for our infrastructure planning.</p> <p>Engineering oversight on town projects were debated and the reason for its importance.</p> <p>SB rep. was asked if the Budget committee would get the Road budget before the meeting date of 1/10. Representative stated it would be. This would ensure the committee would have time to review it prior to the meeting.</p>
Adjournment		Adjourned at 8:04 p.m.
Next Meeting	January 03, 2017 6:45 p.m.	Outside Vendors will be discussed. Any other business which may arise.