

Charlestown Budget Commission

Open Meeting/Regular Meeting

Minutes

February 27, 2024
9:00 AM Council Chambers

Town Hall
4540 South County Trail
Charlestown, RI 02813

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. Present were Richard Sartor, Greg Plunkett, Paula Andersen, Bill Dunn, Town Administrator Jeff Allen, Town Treasurer Patrick Gornley, Assistant Town Treasurer Jeannine Raymond and Administrative Assistant Susan R. Shea. Absent was Tim Kenefick.

February 20, 2024

The minutes were tabled.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

OLD BUSINESS - DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION CONCERNING THE FOLLOWING BUDGET ACCOUNTS, TO INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO POTENTIAL REVIEW, ANALYSIS, MODIFICATION, INCREASE, DECREASE, ELIMINATION, REVISION, REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTINUATION AND VOTE:

Neither the Administrator nor the Treasurer had any new (old) business.

NEW BUSINESS - DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTION CONCERNING THE FOLLOWING BUDGET ACCOUNTS, TO INCLUDE BUT NOT BE LIMITED TO POTENTIAL REVIEW, ANALYSIS, MODIFICATION, INCREASE, DECREASE, ELIMINATION, REVISION, REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, CONTINUATION AND VOTE:

810 Recreation Administration

Vicky Hilton, David Shoemaker and Bill Clarkin were present. A department overview of the year was presented.

The proposed increases are as follows:

- Senior Beach Assistant: \$25/hr to \$26/hr
- Beach Assistant \$ \$22/hr to \$23/hr
- Professional Development \$4,00 to \$5,500

815 Recreation Programs

Seasonal Wages/Camp Ninigret

- Proposal this year is \$72,000 and last year was \$55,610 (increase of \$16,390)
- Minimum wage is \$14.00/hour Requesting \$15.00 for returning counselors
- Camp Director (from \$16.50 to \$20.50 per hour) Asst. Camp Director (from \$16 to \$20 per hour) and Counselor in training (from \$13 to \$15 per hour)

The public is welcome to any meeting of the Budget Commission. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captions) is needed or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please contact (711-364-1210) at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting.

Tennis Program

- FY 23-24 \$15,000 with proposed increase to \$17,000.
- Minimum wage increased to \$14/hour
- Replacement of equipment (tennis balls and ball hoppers)

820 Charlestown Town Beach

- \$20/hour for Lifeguards an increase from last year at \$16/hour to \$20/hour; Attaining lifeguards has been a challenge because there is not enough of them and it's making it competitive with other beaches who are also looking for them.
- Beach Attendants: increase from \$15/hour to \$16/hour
- Beach Managers: increase from \$15/hour to \$18/hour

830 Ninigret Park

- Disc Golf remains the same at \$10,000. It was originally founded by volunteers but they have requested the town take it over
- Pest Control has an increase from \$500 to \$5,000. Spraying is twice a year at \$2,500 for each application. The Commission wants to see a place in plan regarding what is sprayed, where and how often, as well as, what type of product is being used. Ms. Hilton was asked to forward that information to the Commission within the next couple of weeks
- Tennis Courts are level funded at \$1,180. In the capital budget they have requested \$65,000 to resurface, fill in the cracks and paint new lines.
- Picnic tables are in the capital budget but the Commission stated that they should be requesting those through their operating budget.

850 Blue Shutters Beach

- Beach Attendants, Lifeguard and Managers are the same proposed increases as Charlestown Town Beach

The Commission requested that Ms. Hilton survey the costs of beach parking rates from other local beaches.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:07 a.m. Ms. Andersen moved to adjourn.

Date Approved: March 22, 2024

Susan R. Shea, CMC
Administrative Assistant