TOWN OF ORFORD

Board of Selectmen

Budget Meeting Minutes

November 29, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Adams, Paul Goundrey, David Smith

BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Bob Palifka, Lawrence Hibbard, Paul Carreiro, Tom Thomson, Ruth Hook, Anne Duncan Cooley

OTHERS PRESENT: Justin Adams, Sandra Marsh, Tim Cole, Cicely Richardson, Sheri Clifford

**Call to Order**

The budget meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM

Adams announced that there was no need for a special town meeting to expend funds from the Bridges & Roads Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) as the Selectboard were voted agents of the fund at to 2006 town meeting.

Adams pointed out that Warrant Article 3, Capital Reserve Funds, Fire Department Major Truck Repair/Maintenance should be added as it was voted on at the last town meeting.

Regarding last year’s warrant article 15, to clear trees from the town pit, Thomson encouraged allocating funds to test the area to see how much sand is available. Following a discussion, the Board decided to keep the warrant article amount the same and use those funds to begin the process of testing the sand pit area and preparing for a reclamation plan.

Adams reviewed the potential new warrant articles:

* $900 for taking part in a household hazardous waste collection with Piermont.

No further discussion.

* Allocation of up to $225,000 from the Highway Dump Truck CRF with a seven-year warranty to replace Truck #3

Discussion: Carreiro asked how the truck was running and if replacement could be scheduled in another year or two. Smith was not sure how much had been spent to maintain the truck, but would get the numbers.

Goundrey asked why have a vehicle replacement plan if it wasn’t going to be followed and wait until a vehicle is beyond repair to replace it. The idea of the CRF was set up so vehicles could be replaced on a schedule while there was still some trade-in value to the vehicle and costs of new could be determined reasonably. Carreiro felt the CRF was set up to be prudent and preparing for the worst, once a vehicle is showing problems then replace it, he has no problem stretching out the replacement schedule.

Cooley stated it is difficult to replace a vehicle if it breaks down during a snow storm in January when the funds were not voted on. The process is a judgement call.

Thomson pointed out the mileage and hours on truck #3, 54,012 miles or 4.3 miles per day, truck #2 has 26,616 or 5.5 miles per day. The trucks have been almost idle since plowing stopped.

* Allocation of up to $90,000 from the Highway Truck CRF for replacement of the one-ton truck

Discussion: It was questioned if this replacement was even necessary due to the mileage and Thomson questioned an $8,000 estimate for sandblasting the rust and painting of the one-ton to pass inspection in 2018. The Board will request Roger Hadlock, Road Agent, to be present to answer these questions at the December 6th meeting.

* Allocation of up to $202,000 from the FD Truck CRF for replacement of the rescue truck.

Chief Straight would like to propose a smaller vehicle, an F550 base truck configuration with an extended warranty.

* If the current one-ton is to be replaced the fire department requests transferring ownership to them for use as a forestry truck.

The Board will request Chief Straight be present to answer questions at the December 6th meeting.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,