

## **RTM Public Health and Safety Committee**

**May 14, 2018**

**Darien Town Hall Room 119**

### **MINUTES**

Committee Members in Attendance: Colin Kelly, Lois Schneider, Nina Miller, Holly Giordano, Jennifer Woodbury, Brian Rayhill, Laura Mosher, Sara Parent, Mac Patrick, Mia Handler, Gary Swenson

Committee Members Absent: Linda Terhune, Susannah Lewis

PH&S Chair Mac Patrick called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Mr. Swenson proposed two minor amendments to the minutes from the 4/23/18 meeting. The committee unanimously approved the 4/23/18 amended meeting minutes.

The committee discussed portions of Resolution 18-5, the July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019 Budget, relating to Police, Fire, Disaster Preparedness, Emergency Medical Services, and Human Services.

The Police budget has an overall increase of 1.1%, in line with last year. Increases are occurring in the areas of Professional Standards (Training and Education), Communications, and Station Operations. Decreases are occurring in Records and Fleet Services.

The Fire, Protective & Emergency Services budget has an overall increase of 1.6%. The 3 volunteer Fire Departments have a -1.7% decrease driven primarily by the Darien Fire Department's decrease in Facility Repair and Maintenance. The Fire Commission and Fire Marshal budgets have increases driven by improvements to the Burn Tower and concrete base, along with the foreseen increased workload as a result of multiple mixed use developments consuming time during the plan review and construction process.

The Disaster Preparation budget has a \$15,000 increase in Radio Repair and Maintenance involving equipment for first responders.

The Emergency Medical Service (Post 53) budget is down -5.5% (\$10,000) due to anticipated decrease in Professional Services expenditures. Ms. Mosher asked what is driving the decrease in Professional Services cost. Mr. Patrick believes that after the first full year of Post 53 using paramedics, usage/cost was less than expected.

The Human Services Department, which includes the Senior Center, Senior Transportation, Youth Services, and the Public Health Department, has an overall budget decrease of -1% (\$12,853) driven by anticipated increased revenue from the Senior Center and Summer Day Camps. The Public Health Department's budget is up less than 1%, noting that with the retirement of existing support staff, an increased emphasis will

be placed on developing online interactive permit renewal processes. The Public Health budget of \$314,700 receives revenue of \$117,700 from Licenses and Permits.

The PH&S Committee voted unanimously to support these aspects of the Town Budget relating to Police, Fire, Disaster Preparedness, Emergency Medical Services, and Human Services.

The committee discussed arranging a tour of the police boat sometime during the summer.

Mac Patrick adjourned the meeting at 7:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Woodbury