

**MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2014 AT 7:00 P.M. IN ROOM 207, TOWN HALL, 84
SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE CT 06410**

Present

David Schrumm, Chairman; Thomas Ruocco and Peter Talbot.

Councilor Robert J. Oris

Staff: Town Manager Michael A. Milone; Finance Director James Jaskot

1. ROLL CALL

The clerk called the roll and a quorum was determined to be present.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

3. Acceptance and appropriation of an aggregate of \$5,650.89 to the Asset Forfeiture Account.
4. Acceptance and appropriation of an anonymous \$50 donation to the Human Services Gift Account to help residents in need.
5. Authorization to apply for a 2015 Historic Document Preservation Grant for \$7,500 for downloading land record documents.
6. Authorization to apply for a Main Street Investment Fund Grant.
7. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$500 donation from St. Peters Episcopal Church to the Cheshire Fuel Bank.

MOTION by ; seconded by

MOVED to approve agenda items #3 through #7 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

Regarding item #6, Mr. Milone explained that the Town applied for a STEAP grant for the sidewalks on the north side of West Main Street. This grant is pending and the Town should hear in September if the funding will be received. The Main Street grant is supportive of pedestrian walk ways and business development. The STEAP grant has a maximum of \$500,000. The sidewalk project will cost about \$820,000, and it is hoped both grants materialize to fund the project. Mr. Milone will be sending a letter to Cheshire's legislative delegation to assist with getting the Main Street grant.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

8. Adoption of the FY 2014-2015 General Fund Operating Budget

9. Adoption of the FY 2014-2015 Water Pollution Control Department Fund Operating Budget.
10. Adoption of the FY 2014-2015 Community Pool Fund Operating Budget.

Items 8, 9, and 10 were approved by the Budget Committee on April 7, 2014 to be forwarded to the full Town Council.

11. Authorization to execute the First Supplemental Agreement with the State of Connecticut for additional design work on the Linear Trail project and Allocation of additional \$6,000.

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

MOVED to approve agenda item #11 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

Mr. Milone said that the State of Connecticut is driving this project, wants more to do with the parking area and design, is paying 80% of the \$30,000 cost. The net cost to the Town is \$6,000.

Resolution 7 E-1, is a supplemental agreement with the State; \$65,000 was previously approved; the Town never got the agreement approved by the Council.

Council Resolution #8 – total of \$407,100; was originally \$377,100 + the \$30,000.

The history of this part of the Linear Trail project was explained by Mr. Milone, who stated that in August 2011 the capital budget was adopted; \$200,000 was appropriated for planning for the Trail. The project went to RFP, a contract was awarded to Milone and MacBroom for \$312,100. There was a supplemental appropriation back to the Council on July 10, 2012. The State gave a \$250,000 grant for the Trail, and this funding will lapse if it is not used for the design costs. The net cost of the project went to \$62,100. The State extended the Trail past Jarvis Street, extended the parking lot area, at a cost of \$65,000. Total cost was \$377,100, + \$30,000, with net cost of \$6,000 to the Town.

The first resolution at the 4/8/14 Council meeting supplements the Agreement, + \$30,000, with 80% paid by the State or \$24,000, net cost of \$6,000 to Cheshire. The cumulative project cost is \$407,100. There are two parts to the Milone and MacBroom contract – design and storm water improvements. The Council must appropriate the \$30,000 grant, reimbursement of \$250,000, and 80% of the balance is \$6,000. Total cost to the Town is \$81,100.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

12. Acceptance and appropriation of a Connecticut Department of Transportation Local Bridge Program Grant for Blacks Road Bridge project and authorization To execute agreement for said grant.

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

MOVED to approve agenda item #12 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

13. Approval of 401A Plan for Police pension.

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

MOVED to approve agenda item #13 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

14. Notice to proceed and approval of financing for Energy Performance Contracting.

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

MOVED to approve agenda item #14 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

Mr. Milone spoke about the options for the financing of this project.

Option #3 is a 15 year maturity, incentive of \$240,000, which is a lower rebate than option #1. Some of the projects not included in the energy performance contract could be done with the rebate money. The staff recommendation is to go with Option #1, realize the largest rebate, have more flexibility, and additional funds for more energy related projects.

Option #1 – Loan amount, \$9,795,000; interest rate of 2.81%; repayment period of \$16 years. Resolution J-1.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

15. Approval of lease for portion of Boulder Knoll property for us for a sunflower project.

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

MOVED to approve agenda item #15 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

16. Approval of and authorization to execute Stipulation of Judgment for 7 McKee Place, possible executive session.

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

MOVED to approve agenda item #16 and forward to the full Town Council for approval.

Discussion

Mr. Milone informed the committee that this is a \$14,000 adjustment based on the challenge to the assessment.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Mr. Milone advised that there is additional budget information based on the level of changes, mill rate of 30.22 and 30.25; moving everything up one level shows about \$100 change between the two mill rate proposals. There is also an update on the fund balance with use of the \$100,000 and non-use of the \$100,000, and there is inclusion of the funding for bulky waste, \$200,000.

17. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Ruocco; seconded by Mr. Talbot.

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Attest:

Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk