**Town of Wayne, Maine**

**Budget Committee**

**Ladd Recreation Center**

**In Person & Remote**

**April 8, 2025**

**Attending:**

Committee members: Jim Perkins, Amy Black, David Stevenson, Eric Stinneford, Emily Clifton.

Selectboard members: Henry Steck

Interim Town Manager: Shannon McDonnell.

**Welcome**

**Minutes:**

The minutes from March 25, 2025, were approved. Motion by David Stevenson, seconded by Eric Stinneford, 5-0 Unanimous.

**Old Business:**

**General Administration -** Additional updates will be provided at the next meeting.

**Assessing –** Additional updates will be provided at the next meeting.

**Code Enforcement –** The town of Readfield has updated the contractual amount to $45,189.

**Contingency –** Additional updates will be provided at the next meeting.

**Expected Revenues –** Additional updates will be provided at the next meeting.

**New Business:**

**Friends of Cobbossee Watershed –** Jennifer Peasnall provided an overview of Friends of Cobbossee Watershed activities planned that include 30 courtesy boat inspectors, as well as the Aquatic Invasive Species Program that includes prevention, early detection and control activities. They are asking for an increase from $1,500 to $1,800 in support.

**Public Safety**

**Fire** – No changes in expected Fire Department salaries. There was a decrease in Fire Equipment by $10,000. Last year reflected a significant increase to meet specific equipment requirements that could not be pushed off.

**Animal Control** – No changes compared to last year.

**Public Safety** – There are several significant increases affecting contractual services. Ambulance costs have increased by 13%, Fire/EMS dispatch has more than doubled. There may also be some additional changes after following up with the Sheriff’s department.

**General Assistance** – The Aging at Home Coordinator reflects the same COLA as other town employees. The General Assistance line increased from $1,000 to $5,000, reflecting town needs and current usage.

**Public Works**

**Roads –** Work is expected to be done on the following roads in FY 2026: Old Winthrop Rd, Pond Rd, Richmond Mills Rd, Green True Rd, Bessey Rd, Strickland Ferry Rd, and Innes Ridge Rd.

Contractual expenses were updated to reflect current contracts. The Budget Committee supports continuing Village Snow Removal on town sidewalks.

**Transfer Station and Landfill –** Final numbers have been received from Readfield for the Transfer Station, with a net savings of approx. $1,000.

**Land & Buildings –** Operating expenses in this area is primarily electric costs, as well as any repairs and maintenance, mowing and trash collection. No significant changes.

**Recreation –** The only change being some Ladd Operational costs that weren’t in last year’s budget but were in previous years.

**Intergovernmental**

**Capital Reserve** – This area will be reviewed at the next meeting.

**Outside Agencies** – This will be reviewed at the next meeting.

**Capital Reserve Account for LRC Court Project –** The town of Wayne received a Land and Water Conservation Fund grant that funded approximately 50% of the costs for 2 tennis courts and 2 pickleball courts. The community raised the remaining funds. Ongoing maintenance of the courts must be adequately funded as a requirement for accepting the grant funds. Recent conversations with the contractor outlined expected needs. There has been a request to set aside $5,000 per year into a capital LRC Court Project Maintenance fund to adequately pay for updates. i.e. surface repainting, net replacements, etc.

Shannon McDonnell did provide a brief update on LD 609 which contains baseline appropriations and expenditures necessary to close FY 2025 and enable the State to continue operations after July 1st. There is a possibility of a people’s veto referendum. If enough signatures are obtained by June 18th, then it will appear in the November ballot, thereby putting the budget implementation on hold. This would mean that any distributions for state funding for schools, municipalities and counties will not be distributed, at the earliest, until after the November vote. This will have a significant impact on school, county and municipal cash flows.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 22, 2025, at 6:30pm at the Ladd Recreation Center.

**Adjourn:**

Motion to adjourn made by David Stevenson, seconded by Eric Stinneford, 5-0 Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Black