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PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING, JANUARY 9, 2008

The special meeting of the commission was called to order by chairman, Meghan O'Connor, at 7:34 P.M. In attendance were Robin Renner, Steve Poole, Gary Regan, Pat Morton, Lou Valenti, Rachel McGrath, and our new commission member, Bill Pulin. Bill Slifkin was there as an observer.

Before proceeding to the budget which was the purpose of the meeting, Ms. Earle requested input concerning slightly changed dates for the summer program. After discussion, it was agreed on a Motion by Robin Renner seconded by Steve Poole, unanimously approved by all members present that June 24 to August 1st, would be a good program, since work at the schools must be completed before school starts.

Meeting dates for the coming year to be posted with the Town Clerk were approved.

Proceed to the budget;

Accounts 101, 102, and 103, were indicated at the present level since they are prepared by the Selectmen or by the Union.

Account 105 - Part time salary: This account is called upon to take up most of the slack for the deficit of full time employees and indicates a slight increase over last year because of minimum wage requirements.

Account 106 is Negotiated salaries - Union negotiations.

Account 107 - Overtime. This account as well suffers from the lack of sufficient employees to complete the work required. If the requested employees for maintainers are passed, this account as well as Account 105 might be adjusted to reflect this change. In addition, a new maintainer could be employed on the regular time basis during the busy spring and summer, and then would be employed on at different shift, say 3-11 to take up the slack for use of the municipal center during the winter months, when the building is used constantly for program and meetings and a part time employee must be here for clean-up and lock up at the end of the night, and some of the jobs that cannot be completed are finished.

~~Longevity~~ Account 109 - Two of our employees will reach the level' this year and this accounts for the increase.

Account 201, Office Expense - Increase reflects upgrade in programs and services.

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Account 206, A slight increase reflective of prices, and venue numbers.

account 301 - The same

Account 308 - Increase reflecting clothing allowance two new employees

Account - Decrease reflecting tennis courts removed from service.
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Account 315 - Meckauer Park - increase due to additional charge from Wesconn for use of their facility.

Account 316 - Programs, reflects some new programs and some additional programs that will be offered this year and some offering that will be available at no cost to the Department.

Account 403 - Capital Equipment. Shows an increase for the purchase of a utility vehicle and equipment therefor, for snow removal from sidewalks at the school and town, including train station and a trailer to transport equipment. A new pickup truck is also included, since fleet maintenance says our 1996 is no longer usable (it cannot be fixed any more).

405 Capital Construction - Less this year and includes necessary renovations and improvements and a new tot lot to replace the wooden one as per insurance requirements and state requests. To date much of the replacement has been done with grants, but at the moment no grant seems to be forthcoming and the work must be done.

Income - Due to increase charges for programs as well as increased participation, income for the year will be up.

After more discussion and suggestion, a tentative budget of \$976,064 has been prepared. At the next meeting, further suggestions will be made and a final budget will be proposed.

The next meeting will be on January 30, 2008. Ms Earle will be preparing back up letters and charts as requested for presentation at that time.

On a motion by Pat Morton, seconded by Steve Poole, the meeting was adjourned on a unanimous vote with thanks to Ms. Earle and her staff for their hard work.

Respectfully submitted,

Reg. Newell
Recording Secretary