Preston Board of Selectmen  
Special Meeting  
Budget Workshop  
Thursday, February 21, 2019  
Preston Town Hall  
5:30 pm

BOS Present: Robert Congdon, Lynwood Crary, Michael Sinko  
BOS Excused:  None

Call to Order  
1st Selectman Congdon called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm

Budget Workshop

State Budget  
- The Town lost $10,000 in LoCIP (Local Capital Improvement Program)  
- Mashantucket Fund and Town Aid Road are unchanged  
- Schools lost $150,000  
- 25% of Teacher's contract will be phased in over three years. Because Preston is a distressed municipality, the Town will only pay 5%.

Parks & Recreation  
- The BoS recommend 2% for salary increases

Amy Brosnan, Director explained that there is a request to increase the office assistant's hours to 2 additional hours per week, due to additional work required to organize Senior activities. The park is now 20 years old and needs a lot of maintenance.

1st Selectman Congdon stated that his only other comment on this budget is the coordinator (Amy Brosnan) is grossly underpaid for the services she is providing to the Town. The Annual Budget is probably the wrong time to explore that, but after this budget year is done, the BoS should look at what other towns pay and so some comparables. The hours and programs that Amy is providing are incredible.

Ethics Commission  
- No change has been made to Ethic's budget

Building Department  
- The BoS recommend 2% for salary increases

Assessor  
- Budget increase for software

Registrar of Voters  
- BoS would like the RoV to come in to answer questions regarding their budget.
Library
- BoS will meet with the Library on Monday, February 25th

Animal Control
- The BoS recommend 2% for salary increase

Town Clerk-Tax Collector
- BoS had no changes to Town Clerk's proposed budget

Town Planner
- BoS did not feel the 2 additional hours requested was necessary this year and agreed to keep it at 16 hours per week.
- BoS will inquire regarding request of $5000.00 for legal fees.

Inland Wetlands
- The BoS recommend 2% for salary increase for Wetlands Agent.

Conservation Commission
- Requested no change from last year's budget

Public Comment
Melissa Lennon, Board of Finance Chair stated that when Parks and Recreation presented their budget, the 1st Selectman commented that Parks And Rec's director is grossly underpaid but the budget process is not a good time to discuss that. So when is the appropriate time to discuss the appropriate compensation for a paid Town official if not during the budget season.
1st Selectman Congdon answered that it could be during the budget season, but for them to do a business case at this point in the budget season, to find out what other towns pay and what comparable rates are; we are too deep in the current budget season to do that.

Adjournment
A motion was made by M. Sinko and seconded by L. Crary to adjourn the meeting at 6:35 pm. All in favor. Motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Roberta Charpentier
recorder