

**TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH
TOWN COUNCIL WORKSHOP
TOWN HALL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2009**

A Town Council Workshop of the Old Orchard Beach Town Council was held on Monday, April 13, 2009 in the Town Hall Chamber. The Chair opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. and the following budgets to be discussed included:

20174– Service Agencies; **20175** – Library; **20176** – Transit District Subsidy; **20177** – OOB Historical Society; **20117**– Miscellaneous; **20118** – Contingency; **20119** – Insurance; **20116**– York County Tax; **20197**– Debt Service Principal; **20198**– Debt Service Interest; **20223**– Transfer to TIF Fund.

Present:

**Chair Sharri MacDonald
Vice Chair Robin Dayton
Councilor Mike Tousignant
Councilor Shawn O’Neill
Town Manager Steve Gunty
Assistant Town Manager V. Louise Reid**

Absent: **Councilor Laura Bolduc**

Chair MacDonald welcomed everyone to the Workshop. Discussion on the agencies was first on the agenda: 20174– Service – as shown in the chart on page 2.

The Agencies represented by their letters of request for funding provide a number of sources of assistance to citizens of Old Orchard Beach. Each organization has its own specific mission and in their letters presented to the Council a synopsis of their work and particularly the involvement with local residents.

Mr. Steve Farrell asked if he might just speak about the work of the American Red Cross in which he summarized much of the work that they do throughout many communities including blood drives, shelters, meals, disaster work, clothing and medicine provisions, etc. He indicated that if there is a fire and a family is involved it costs approximately \$1,000 to \$1,200 to put up a family until they can find other housing.

Discussion continued on the fireworks and the \$10,000 cost and it was explained that Palace Playland had taken over the responsibility from Paul Golzbein. There was a consensus that this is a community event which supports not only the visitors but our local citizens as well and that there was a desire to assist in payment for those activities.

Discussion on possible revising of the requested funding for the Community Watch Group would be considered as they are involved entirely in our community and have done some great things in the area of safety and community efforts.

Agencies

**TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH
FY10 PROPOSED BUDGET
COMPARATIVE BUDGET & EXPENDITURE REQUEST**

| | | <u>FY09 ADOPTED BUDGET</u> | <u>FY10 AGENCY REQUEST</u> | <u>FY10 MANAGER PROPOSED</u> | <u>FY10 \$ DIFF</u> |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 20174 Service Agency Allocations | | | | | |
| 50701 | Methodist Church Food Pantry | 2,500 | 2,500 | 2,500 | - |
| 50702 | So ME Agency on Aging | 2,150 | 6,000 | 2,150 | - |
| 50704 | Caring Unlimited | 1,500 | 1,870 | 1,500 | - |
| 50705 | York County Child Abuse | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | - |
| 50706 | American Red Cross | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | - |
| 50707 | York County Community Action | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,000 | - |
| 50708 | Sexual Assault Response | 1,000 | 750 | 1,000 | - |
| 50709 | Firefighters Halloween | 750 | 750 | 750 | - |
| 50710 | Biddeford Fee Clinic | 500 | 500 | 500 | - |
| 50712 | York County Shelters | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | - |
| 50713 | Community Resolution Board | - | - | - | - |
| 50714 | Salvation Army | 3,500 | 3,750 | 3,500 | - |
| 50715 | Home Health Visiting Nurses | 1,000 | 1,000 | 1,000 | - |
| 50716 | Chamber of Commerce Dues | 2,675 | 3,000 | 2,675 | - |
| 50717 | Eastern Trail Mgmt District | 5,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | - |
| 50722 | July 4th Fireworks | 10,000 | 10,000 | - | (10,000) |
| 50723 | Community Watch Council | 1,000 | 5,100 | 1,000 | - |
| 50724 | Junior Achievement | 1,000 | 1,500 | 1,000 | - |
| 50725 | Memorial Park Committee | - | - | - | - |
| 50726 | Pine Tree Chapter Organ Society | - | - | - | - |
| | Woodfords Family Service | - | 700 | - | - |
| | VNA Home Health & Hospice | - | 500 | - | - |
| | Southern Maine Parent Awareness | - | 250 | - | - |
| Total | | 38,575 | 49,170 | 28,575 | (10,000) |

20175 – Library; The Edith Belle Memorial Library building is at the edge of Memorial Park on Staples Street, only one block from the downtown of Old Orchard Beach. The present library opened in 1957 and was made possible in part due to a gift in the will of Frank Libby, a former town selectman and it was his wish that it be named in honor of the memory of his wife, Edith Belle Libby. The library circulates audio books, videos, magazines, puzzles, and some photograph records and tapes, as well as more than 23,000 books for adults and children. In addition there are 58 magazines and newspapers displayed in the pleasant garden area reading room. It has two computers for the public to use. One is equipped for word processing applications, drawings, and a couple of games and is available for the general public. Library cards are free to any child attending school in Old Orchard Beach and visitors are always welcome and can secure a non resident card for only \$10. Residential cards are mailed out to citizens. In additional there are many programs conducted for children and adults during the year and the Library serves as a wonderful media Mecca for the international students who work here during the summer months. Several members of the Library staff spoke about the frugality of their operations. Many of the activities to be conducted during the coming months were discussed as well as the revitalization of their building since the flood damage. It was also noted that our insurance company would cover the cost of the repairs, less the deductible.

20176 – Transit District Subsidy; For 25 years the ShuttleBus has served Southern Maine residents with a convenient and affordable public transportation network. ShuttleBus Tri-Town Service within Biddeford, Saco and Old Orchard Beach are a great service to the community as well as providing connections to the tri-towns with Scarborough, South Portland and Portland. In 1998, Shuttlebus joined with the Maine DOT and the Maine Turnpike Authority to launch the Zoom Turnpike Express, a commuter service that links between Biddeford and Saco with downtown Portland. Each of the three communities has three representatives on the Shuttlebus Board and each community supports financially the operation of the Shuttlebus. Shuttlebus Chairperson, Roxanne Frenette updated the Council on the history of the Transit System, financial coverage by other agencies such as the DOT, Maine Turnpike, etc. She also provided a review of the outdated busses and the plans for replacement of those busses and the one trolley. Ms. J. Clark also presented her comments regarding the value of the bus services to her as someone that works in Portland and rides the bus on a daily basis.

20177 – OOB Historical Society; The Museum is celebrating 125 years in Old Orchard. Historical records and all kinds of interesting paraphernalia are contained within the walls of the Harmon Museum. The history of the Town is as deep as the soft sand that lines our seven mile beach. Earliest records date back to 1653, making the beautiful coastal destinations 356 years old. We have been a Town for 125 years. Settled in 1657 by Thomas Rogers as “Garden by the Sea,” for many years there were old apple orchards which were landmarks for sailors, thus the name – Old Orchard Beach. This historic museum contains so much of our history including information on the great fire of 1907 that destroyed the entire beachfront; the destruction of the end of the Pier in 1909; the 1920 and 1930 era of the “big bands;” and of course lots about the Lindberg daring flight to our community. Dan Blaney, Archivist for the Museum, noted the many updates that have been done to the Museum and the historical value of all that it contains. The ability to store much of the material is a problem because of limited space. It was noted that construction upstairs and

shelving is a critical need. They decided to leave the Historical Society budget as it was last year at an amount of \$14,000.

20117– Miscellaneous; This account is used for small, unforeseen expenditures, for example flowers or donations for employees; town-wide Christmas Party, etc.

20118 – Contingency; This account could be used for unexpected repairs such as the boiler, roof, etc. These expenses or costs, however, must go to the Council for approval. Discussion continued on this account and comparisons to the Undesignated Account. The question was asked if these two accounts might be combined and the plus and minus results of doing that. Councilor O’Neill questioned the amount being determined for contingency and felt it was not enough for any unseen emergencies.

20119 – Insurance; This account is used to cover the Town’s General Liability Insurance, Worker’s Compensation and Unemployment Insurance as well. Discussion continued on why we are paying for seasonal individuals and the Finance Director said it is the law which requires this type of payment. It is minimal for our municipality but we do have to put this into the budget.

20116– York County Tax; This account is for the Town’s portion of the County Tax. There were comments about how little is provided by the County and the cost of the service they do provide.

20197– Debt Service Principal; This account funds the Town’s Bond principal payments and lease purchase payments. The Finance Director reviewed this account; the payments and the lease responsibilities.

20198– Debt Service Interest; This account funds interest payments on bonds and lease purchases.

20223– Transfer to TIF Fund. This account no longer is needed. It was to transfer money to the Downtown TIF Fund which is now obsolete. Discussion of what the TIF is and the possibility in the future of a workshop on TIF’s.

The meeting ended at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

V. Louise Reid
Town Council Secretary

I, V. Louise Reid, Secretary to the Town Council of Old Orchard Beach, Maine, do hereby certify that the foregoing document consisting of four pages (4) is a true copy of the original Minutes of the Town Council Workshop of April 13, 2009.

V. Louise Reid