

**TOWN OF OLD ORCHARD BEACH  
TOWN COUNCIL BUDGET WORKSHOP  
TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2007 – 7:00 P.M.**

**A Town Council Budget Workshop was called by Chairman Joseph Kline on Tuesday, April 24, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall to discuss the following budgets:**

**20151 – Public Works; 20164 – Comfort Station; 20163 – Solid Waste; any budgets that were unable to be discussed at the April 18, 2007 budget workshop.**

**Attendance:**  
**Councilor Roxanne Frenette**  
**Councilor Robin Dayton**  
**Councilor James Long**  
**Vice Chair Shawn O’Neill**  
**Chairman Joseph Kline**

**Also in attendance:** **James Thomas – Town Manager**  
**V. Louise Reid – Assistant Town Manger**  
**Mary Ann Conroy, Public Works Director**  
**Jill Eastman, Finance Director**

**The following adjustments were made to the budget:**

**20151 – Public Works;**

**Public Works has 13 employees and the staffing is a critical matter. The Public Works Director recommended that Mike Perrone be promoted to Assistant Director – with an \$8,000 increase. The other leadership position was a Project Manager which I suggested last year. We need an administrator of State projects and funding. This would be primary inspection position and some light engineering activities. Some background knowledge in engineering is required rather than an expertise in construction. The other position is for Parks. The beach is not usually considered a Public Works issue but rather a Parks issue. The amount of dune grass work that is required particularly because of the storms is an urgent request. The Public Works Director indicated that she plans to continue to work with the schools and the Recreation Department. Unfortunately the Recreation Director does not have the staff to keep up the property part such as the skate park. The Public Works Director indicated that the bathrooms have been taken care of better than ever and acting as Ambassadors for the municipality. Even recommendations of taking the barrels off the beach is not recommended by the Public Works Director. The Chairman discussed a shift in residents needs versus business needs and who is paying for the needs of both. The tax base is shifting to the residents. The Public Works Director indicated that she will analyze other costs. The Town Manager indicated that the question is who pays for the costs – the residents or the businesses. The Chairman indicated that a possible solution would be for the**

businesses to provide their own barrels and buy the bags. The Town Manager indicated that Palace Playland is a business that pays for its own trash pickup. compared to having an inhouse project manager. You would be looking at approximately \$75,000 approximately for a full time engineer on duty for three projects a year. You get a better level of service for a full time project manager who is on staff full time. The Public Works employee who is looking at our benefits and is an outside firm you need more oversight on the outside person whereas if it is a project manager in house oversight is required but not so constant. Councilor Long supported the Public Works Director's suggestion. He believes that she is a talented staff member and we may lose her if consideration to wages is not addressed. It should be noted that she has come under the funds established for the projects. He indicated that he believes the citizens would agree with that decision. The Chairman asked about the 10% fee going back to the Public Works department if we had our own project manager. It would not be able to be put in a grant but it can be put in federal/state monies. The Town Manager indicated that he could not justify in 2008 these increases in public works and waste water management. The Vice Chair indicated that he does not feel that we are in a critical situation. Councilor Long indicated that this department is performing at a high level. Councilor Long again indicated that he felt the request for the Assistant Director is important and necessary.

**20151** – Public Works; Councilor Dayton asked for a list of future projects for next year and what is the relationship between the Project Director and the Recreation Director. We will revisit the Department Head's salary during discussions on salary. The consensus was for the funding for the highest position – Project Manager – non union – salary of \$60,000 under non union position. In connection with the Transfer Station the request is that study be done of possible free transfer station availability for fall and spring in order to assist the residents in disposal of materials.

**20164** – Comfort Station; Approved as indicated in budget.

**20163** – Solid Waste; Approved as indicated in budget.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Workshop ended at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

V. Louise Reid  
Secretary to the Town Council

I, V. Louise Reid, Secretary to the Town Council of Old Orchard Beach, do hereby certify that the foregoing document consisting of two (2) pages is a true copy of the original Minutes of the Town Council Workshop held on April 24, 2007.

V. Louise Reid