

Town of New Shoreham

Public Hearing on the FY 2017 Operating and Capital Budget

April 18, 2016

Changes Resulting from the Town Council Budget Worksessions

The FY 2017 budget being considered at the Public Hearing provides for a \$318,896 (2.4%) increase over the current year for a total Town of New Shoreham General Fund budget of \$13,431,278.

Since the presentation of the budget by the Town Manager, anticipated changes in personnel costs have been solidified. Health insurance premiums will increase 7.95% in FY 2017; a 10% increase had been budgeted. Dental premiums, also budgeted for a 10% increase, will decrease 4.92%. Agreement has been reached with the New Shoreham Employees' Association for a 2.5% wage increase and 8% premium co-share. The distribution of that increase will be slightly different than previously presented, resulting in small adjustments to wage, benefit and tax lines throughout the budget. The overall impact of these staffing-related changes is a \$10,260 reduction in the anticipated increase.

During the budget worksessions the Town Council made the following changes to the FY 2017 budget, reflected in the Budget for Public Hearing dated April 18, 2016 and totaling an increase of \$73,020:

- Increase in support of Deer Management \$500 (Page 8)
- Increase in Administration for Contingency \$15,000 (Page 8)
- Increase in Administration for Town Manager Search \$20,000 (Page 8)
- Increase in Police \$44,420 to support enforcement of traffic and noise violations (Page 11)
- Reduction in Street Lighting expense \$8,650 (Page 12)
- Increase in support of Block Island Volunteer Fire & Rescue for fire alarm call stipend \$7,000 (Page 19)
- Increase in support of NAMI-Block Island \$3,500 (Page 19)
- Increase in support of Block Island Early Learning Center \$5,250 (Page 19)
- Reduction of \$19,000 in Capital/ Technology as Broadband costs are funded from the Infrastructure Improvement Fund, partially offset by support for the Police eCitation program (Page 20)
- Increase in Capital for Fire & Rescue Building/ Solar & Generator Upgrades \$5,000 (Page 20)

Net changes in the FY 2017 budget from the initial presentation by the Town Manager to the Public Hearing increase the total budget by \$62,760. The additional funding is proposed to be added to the tax levy, resulting in an overall increase in the tax levy of 2.88%.