May 28, 2020

**Budget Proposal and Summary**

The proposed 2020-2021 Budget has a total projected income of $127,750. This total is an increase of $30,250 from last year’s budgeted income of $97,500. The increase is due to a proposed change in property taxes from a rate of .05 cents to a rate of .15 cents per $100 of property valuation. This tax adjustment will allow us to maintain a balanced budget while anticipating expenses likely to be incurred in the process of developing a Land Use Plan and making state-mandated updates to our ordinances.

**INCOME: $127,750**

We estimate that we will receive $78,180 in ad valorem taxes based on a millage rate of .15 cents per $100, with an estimated property valuation of $52,120,120 for properties within the town limits of Webster, but not including areas zoned for government, nor any church or cemetery properties. Vehicle tax income is expected to be $1,900; franchise taxes are projected to be $26,000; and rental income is estimated at $9,000. Interest from investments is projected to be $1,400, an increase from last year’s budgeted $500 as a result of investment of an expiring CD into an interest-bearing money market account. Revenue from Sales and Use tax is expected to decrease 25% due to closure of businesses as a result of the governor’s mandate in response to Covid-19; we are expecting to receive $9,670, which is a decrease from last year’s total of $15,000.

**EXPENSES: $127,750**

***Government: $77,000***

Government expenses are Webster’s largest expenditure totaling $77,000, which is up from last year’s budget of $49,200. Legal fees, council stipends, and payroll obligations remain consistent with last year’s budget. Increases are noted in Miscellaneous Expenses, which are up $22,500 from last year’s budget of $125; this increase will allow us to address expenses associated with professional services required for ordinance review, land use plan creation, and other capital improvements. We simplified our chart of accounts by folding some line items into larger categories; Payroll Processing Fees and Workers Compensation expenses are now contained within the single category of Payroll Expenses.

***Residential Services: $42,500***

Residential services are projected to be $42,500, which is up $1,000 from last year. Fire protection continues to be the largest expense ($21,000), followed by law enforcement patrol ($8,000) and landscaping ($7,500).

***Town Hall: $8,250***

Town Hall expenses are expected to be $8,250. Office expenses are budgeted at $4,000, which is an increase of $1,300 from last year and in anticipation of expenses incurred while updating town document storage and improving public document digital access. Further simplification of the chart of accounts was achieved by containing the Pest Control line item within Office Expenses. Repairs and Utilities are $500 and $2,500, respectively, which are both decreases of $500 each from last year’s budget.

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Leigh Anne Young

Vice-Mayor