The hearing was called to order by Charlotte Madar at 6:00PM. She led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present:
Charlotte Madar
Joseph Palmucci
John Belden
Joseph Knapik
Louis J. Dagostine III
Jay Zikaras

Board of Aldermen members Present:
Stanley Kudej
Erik McPherson
John "Jack" Finn
John Pappa

Animal Control
Lt. Robert Kozlowsky
Chief Joel W. Hurliman
J. George Rodrigues
- The mayor’s cut to the budget was discussed. When asked if they could survive on the lessor figure the response was, “Yes”.
- They would be down to six employees instead of the recommended nine. There will be a staffing issue.
- Overtime pay, cat complaints, and inoculation will be used up by June 30th.
- There are still a lot of bills that will reduce the monies.
- State adoption fees are zero year to date and are budgeted to be the same next year.
- Purchase orders are being put together for new bills now. They are somewhat behind because the full-time animal control officer was out.
- There is one volunteer at the shelter. John Pappa noted that we would need more volunteers and/or part-time employees for the new shelter and that we could set up an account for donations.
- Joe Knapik wanted to know if they would have a surplus like last year. A surplus isn’t expected.
- Louis J. Dagostine III wanted to know if the shelter offered adoptions and, if so, are fees collected? Yes there are adoptions. Out of the collected fees the shelter keeps $5.00 and the rest goes to the State.
- John Pappa wanted to know how much it would cost to add on one part-time person. The response was the $16,000.00 that was cut from the budget would pay for one part-time person.
- Mr. Pappa wanted to know why the surplus wasn’t being used to hire a part-time person. There won’t be a need for more workers until the new shelter opens.
- Charlotte Madar wanted to know when the new shelter was set to open and she was told that it would open in the spring.

**Police Department**

Lt. Robert Kozlowski

Chief Joel W. Hurliman

J. George Rodrigues

- Chief Hurliman stated that in the interest of not walloping the taxpayers, the police department has not asked for an increase in budget. He also told the Board that the new hiring ordinance has allowed the police department to hire certified officers.
- Charlotte Madar stated that the mayor cut the budget by $30,370.00. She wanted to know if the police department could survive on that amount. The Chief told the Board that they could pretty much do that and noted that the sick time buyback for last year doesn’t look like a valid number.
- Mr. Knapik noted that every year the police department returns money. This year 15% was returned. Is there anything that could be done to use this money in the police department? Joe Hurliman stated that the money returned was for police department positions that weren’t hired.
- Mr. Dagostine asked about the Valley Street Crime line item. There was no money budgeted for this. Is this line item still necessary? Yes. The line item is still necessary because there are still assets that could be dispersed. It was decided to put $1.00 into the line item to keep it open.
- Mr. Pappa wanted to know how many employees would be hired. He was told that the police department has 51 officers with the retirements and is authorized to have 62. He would like to hire up to 62. Mr. Pappa wanted to know if this number was achievable. He was told that it was because they could now hire certified staff instead of having to wait and hire from the Academy.
- Chief Hurliman noted that they receive some monies from pistol and long gun permits. The Alarm Ordinance dropped the number of false alarms responded to down and he’d like to rewrite it to drop that number more and save the police department the expense incurred from responding to false alarm calls.
Mr. Finn wanted to know if there were officers from other departments that would be interested in working in Shelton with the open contract negotiations still going on. He was told that there was a good amount of interest from officers in other departments that have inquired about working in Shelton.

Mr. Dagostine wanted to know if there were any upcoming capital expenditures. The Chief told him that they were going to be putting a transmitter and receiver on a tower to improve radio transmissions.

**Library**

Elspeth Lydon

- Elspeth Lydon addressed the Board and noted that there is no Assistant Director at the library and that there have been no raises for two years. They plan on filing for raises this year. She also went on to say that they would not like to lose their training completely and would like to keep $20.00 in the account. She noted that the book line was cut again.
- Charlotte Madar noted that the regular payroll was cut $26,000.00. Elspeth Lydon told the Board that that $3,000.00 of that money was to pay for the raises for 20 people.
- Joseph Knapik wanted to know about the current circumstances and trends. He noted that about $91,000.00 was resubmitted to the City. Was this done because requests weren’t approved? Elspeth Lydon replied that part of that money was salary money. Mileage and postage was not completely spent. Staff training hasn’t happened or has been done via computer so the vehicle hasn’t been needed.
- Mr. Knapik wanted to know if the library would be requesting staffing positions that weren’t given this year. Elspeth Lydon stated that she would like to.
- Jack Finn wanted to know if there was money for books or was the library relying on the Friends of the Library for new books. Yes there is money for books. We don’t have to rely on the Friends of the Library for books.
- Charlotte Madar stated that the Board would add $20.00 to the training line item.
- John Pappa wanted to know if there was any revenue generated. No there isn’t any.
- Joseph Palmucci wanted to know if any repairs were needed. Elspeth Lydon replied that they needed equipment.
- Mr. Palmucci then asked about the damage to the front of the library. Do you need money for that? Ms. Lydon stated that they don’t pay for repairs. Mr. Palmucci stated that that would go to the City. Ms. Lydon told the Board that the library has been trying to get a roof for the door between the new and old building. Charlotte Madar suggested a canvass awning but was told by Ms. Lydon that it might not hold up to wind.
- Jack Finn stated that the new ramp wasn’t in compliance with the Americans for Disabilities Act and that they needed to bring the ramp into compliance and then take care of the cover. Charlotte Madar told Ms. Lyons that she must check with Maintenance. “Please check and get the library in compliance.”

**Municipal Property Maintenance**

Chris Potucek

- Mr. Potucek stated that all his budget requests have been met. There will be a new roof put on the White Hills Fire Department.
- Charlotte Madar wanted to know if there was any revenue generated. Chris Potucek replied that there wasn’t any income.
Community Development

Mrs. Defilippo had a problem getting to the meeting but left a message that she is satisfied with her budget.

Building Department

Joseph Ballaro

- Charlotte Madar noted that the Building Department was overdrawn by two part-time employees and Emergency Services. Mr. Ballaro stated that a transfer of funds to fix this issue was in process.
- Ms. Madar wanted to know if his department had enough monies for the rest of the year. He told her that they should have enough.
- Ms. Madar also wanted to know if the Board should delete the Professional Service line item or put a dollar amount in it. Joe Ballaro stated that he needs the line item and would like to keep it open. They decided to put a dollar in it.
- Mr. Knapik wanted to know if the Building Department would be returning money as they did last year. He was told that the money represents a vacancy that they’d like to fill this year. If not filled the money would go back.
- Mr. Dagostine wanted to know about the revenue generated by permits. Charlotte Madar noted that the money was over the expected dollar amount. Mr. Ballaro told them that the Benchmark assisted living facility represented a lot of that money. It’s hard to tell how much revenue will be brought in but they always estimate conservatively.
- John Pappa wanted to know how much of these monies Shelton keeps. Joe Ballaro told him that Shelton keeps all but the education fee, 26 cents per every $1,000.00. Jack Finn wanted to know if the Building Department was looking into raising the fees. Mr. Ballaro told him that they wanted to raise the fees if they could get the mayor’s approval.
- Mr. Ballaro would like to use the additional revenue to get updated equipment like i-Pads.
- Mr. Palmucci wanted to know if there were any capital expenditures. He was told that they had purchased one new vehicle and had two new vehicles in the new budget.

Public Works Director

No one was present from Public Works.

Engineering

Bob Kulacz

- Bob Kulacz noted that Engineering takes care of infrastructure and record maintenance. They update tax assessor's map and the geological information system. They coordinate with the State for bridges and water main extension systems. Engineering reviews all inland wetlands from an engineering aspect. They control the permitting process for street opening for utility companies and contractors.
- Charlotte Madar stated that all the monies requested in the budget were given. There was one position not filled. Why?
- Mr. Kulacz stated that a $49,000.00 Technician position had not been filled.
• Mr. Dagostine asked about the sidewalk reimbursement deficit. He was told that more homeowners took advantage of the program than expected and one downtown business caused the budgeted number to be off because of the amount of sidewalk that they have. A transfer of funds was done to cover the deficit.
• John Pappa wanted to know if this department had any revenue. He was told that they generate about $3,900.00 from plan reviews, permits, and copying maps.
• Joseph Knapik wanted to know if there would be any capitol expenses. He was told that Engineering wanted to replace the large-scale map copier but were waiting until the machines available for purchase better meet their needs. They are having a problem getting parts for their current machine but they feel that they can hold off about a year until what they want to buy becomes available.

Tree Warden
No one was present.

Highways and Bridges
No one was present.

Road Repairs
No one was present.

Recycling Program
No one was present.

Sanitation
No one was present.

Vehicle Funds
No one was present.

Adjournment
Joseph Palmucci made a motion to adjourn at 7:13PM. The motion was seconded by John Belden. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Anglace, clerk.