

**Preston Parks & Recreation Commission
Special Meeting
Thursday, January 27, 2022
Teleconference Call
7:30 pm**

Call to Order/Roll

Vice Chairman Dan Coley called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm

Members present: Dan Coley, Mikel Brockway, Gary Deveau, Rachel Tucker, Tom Wilbur

Members excused:

Members absent: Kim Demara, Katie Iozzia,

Alternates present: Roberta Charpentier

Also present: Amy Brosnan, Director, Roberta Charpentier, recorder

Budget 2022-2023

- Received 2 quotes for a mower

Gano's - \$19,199.20

Kahn - \$15,821.06

- *Discussion took place on which was the preferred mower in order to put the correct amount of funds in the budget.*
- D. Coley explained that he and A. Brosnan looked at what other towns are paying their Parks & Rec. employees and there is a big difference. A letter was drafted and will be sent to the BoS asking that salaries be re-evaluated because minimum wage is starting to catch up with the salaries and it is going to inhibit getting staffing at the Park. Also Amy gets paid far less than other towns. I think it's worth asking them to take a look at it.

Sampling of Parks & Recreation Director pay rates from other local towns:

Norwich	\$93,807.00
Groton, Town of	\$115,000.00
Colchester	\$66,280.00
Griswold	\$51,468.00
Montville	\$80,700.00
Stonington	\$74,921.00
East Lyme	\$112,770.00
Ledyard	\$76,990.00
North Stonington	\$26,349.79(part time)
Preston	\$36,786.00

A. Brosnan noted that there are 2 maintenance men at the Park. One has been in that position for 14 years and makes \$16.86 an hour and the newer guy makes \$15 an hour. Come July 1st minimum wage is \$14 an hour. We are continually getting comments from those who use the Park about how well it is kept up and how nice it is.

M. Brockway noted that the maintenance guys are always willing to help out when Baseball makes

requests.

T. Wilbur stated he'd like to see someone like Dean make a little bit more because he is someone you can trust with the equipment.

M. Brockway stated I wouldn't take that job for less than \$19 or \$20 an hour.

A motion was made by R. Tucker and seconded by G. Deveau to accept the budget flat except for the 2 line items

Repairs and Maintenance raised from \$22,000 to \$42,000

Program Supplies \$5,050 to \$15,050

All in favor. Motion carries.

A motion was made by G. Deveau and seconded T. Wilbur to submit the proposed budget with accompanying letter to the Board of Selectmen

All in favor. Motion carries.

Public Comment

None

Adjournment

A motion was made by G. Deveau and seconded by T. Wilbur to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 pm

All in favor. Motion carries

Respectfully submitted,



Roberta Charpentier