

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
5:30 P.M., THURSDAY, JULY 26, 2018
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – BUCKSPORT TOWN OFFICE**

AGENDA

- 1. Call meeting to order**
- 2. Election of Chair**
- 3. Roll call**
- 4. Non-Municipal Agency funding policy**
- 5. Adjournment**

Finance Committee

Peter Stewart

Paul Gauvin

David Kee, Chair

TO: Bucksport Town Council
FROM: Sue Lessard, Town Manager
DATE: 5/24/18
RE: Community Agency Funding

The purpose of this memo is to discuss the subject of Community Agency Funding. I have provided a separate draft regarding the accountability/community value component for these entities that the Council had indicated that it wished to consider. This memo deals with the basis for that draft and policy questions beyond process questions that have been raised during this discussion.

First, the basis for evaluation of agencies requesting funding is rooted in the work done through the Comprehensive Planning process and through Heart & Soul. The work of both groups has been formally adopted by the Town Council. Therefore, the evaluation of those seeking funding through those 'lenses' insures that the work of the agencies supports the goals and objectives already identified through the work of many people in the community.

Second, the draft recommends relocation of the local organizations from the Social & Community Agency budget to the individual budgets of which they are really a part. This will create an apples to apples comparison between entities. As the budgets are currently configured, apples and pears and peaches are all lumped together and it is confusing when considering budget requests. It also is a better way to look at the impact and contribution of these organizations as part of a department since they really do provide service that augments department work.

Third, this draft suggests that the Council add a petition requirement to the application process to add another 'community support' element to the process.

Fourth, this draft suggests that the Council consider a maximum both in terms of per organization that can be applied for as well as a maximum amount to be appropriated in total on an annual basis.

Finally, this draft does not consider any alternate ways to provide some of these services. It has been suggested that the town could hire an employee to assist economic development in downtown redevelopment in lieu of the level of funding requested for some organizations. That option would provide local government control of the whole process with total accountability from the perspective of where tax dollars are spent. It would not however, provide support for non-government organizations that have been formed in support of promoting the Town of Bucksport.

Non-Municipal Organization Funding Request Policy Ideas

The Council during its recent budget discussions has indicated the desire to add an accountability and community value assessment component to the review of non-municipal organization funding requests. This topic has been very active on the Town Manager List serve recently as well and I have printed those emails out as background material for this memo.

Application Process:

We currently have an application form that requires a considerable amount of information. In addition to an application, a number of communities now require non-municipal organizations to present a petition signed by a certain number of residents in order to be considered for inclusion in the budget. They consider that this not only requires entities to engage actively with the residents – it also is an indicator of local support. The petition does not guarantee funding – but it is a part of the application process. This may be a way for the Council moving forward to be able to better gauge local support

Evaluation Criteria:

The following criteria would be applied to the information provided on the application in order to determine funding and the preferences language allows further refinement on how to best manage local tax dollars:

Evaluation criteria that the Council could consider in reviewing applications:

A. Must attend in order to be considered.

- A. What type of service is provided by the organization and is it a need in the community as identified by the Town's Comprehensive Plan?
- B. What is the availability of the service provided in the community?
- C. What is the level of resident participation with the organization?
- D. What local benefits result from the work of the organization?
- E. Preference
 - a. Preference shall be given to organizations located in the Town of Bucksport
 - b. Preference shall be given to organizations who provide service to the community through volunteer activities
 - c. Preference shall be given to organizations that provide necessary services that may otherwise result in impacts to the municipal budget through such line items as General Assistance and economic development.
 - d. Preference shall be given to organizations that offer desired services not otherwise available to Bucksport residents
 - e. Preference shall be given to entities whose purpose furthers goal(s) in the Town's Comprehensive plan.
 - f. Preference shall be given to entities whose purpose is consistent with the Heart & Soul Community Values Statements adopted by the Bucksport Town Council.

Funding Level:

In some communities, a not-to-exceed amount is established for non-municipal organizations in total on an annual basis, and some have a cap on the amount that any individual organization can request.

Budget location:

In reviewing the list of entities that are listed as having asked for funding, I am suggesting that the following be taken from the list and put in department budgets as noted below. They can still be evaluated for funding through the same mechanism – but would be located in the budget that they are actually supporting in the community.

Community & Economic Development:

Chamber of Commerce

Main Street Bucksport

Fort Knox

Bay Festival

Bucksport Bay Healthy Communities Coalition

All of these groups are local and all are related to the social and economic health of the community.

PEG Channel

Penobscot Consortium – This is dues related to the cable tv contract

Planning

Conservation Commission – this is a Town Committee

General Assistance

Bucksport Community Concerns – This organization assists the needy and is located in Bucksport. We refer GA clients who do not quite qualify for that program to this on a regular basis.

Recreation

Snowmobile Club – this is a pass through of a portion of registration fees to the group for trail maintenance

Senior Citizens – The rest of the appropriation for the Senior Center is already in the recreation Budget

Library – this appropriation is in lieu of the Town having its own library which is a recreational amenity

Child Care Center – The Y appropriation contains funding related to child care and this appropriation should be in the same budget.

Public Works

Memorial Day – this line item is specific to the Memorial Day celebration

Community Social Agency
Mil Rate Impact 2007 - 2019

Fiscal Year	Community Agencies		Social Agencies		Total	Total Tax Commitment	% of Total Commit.	mil rate	Mil Rate Impact				
2007-08	\$	32,850.00	\$	23,652.00	\$	56,502.00	\$	9,110,324.00	0.6201975	\$	13.80	\$	0.0856
2008-09	\$	32,600.00	\$	25,002.00	\$	57,602.00	\$	8,889,065.00	0.6480097	\$	12.75	\$	0.0826
2009-10	\$	32,600.00	\$	25,002.00	\$	57,602.00	\$	8,695,050.00	0.6624689	\$	12.52	\$	0.0829
2010-11	\$	32,100.00	\$	25,002.00	\$	57,102.00	\$	8,728,134.00	0.6542292	\$	12.52	\$	0.0819
2011-12	\$	27,526.00	\$	37,847.00	\$	65,373.00	\$	8,660,693.00	0.7548241	\$	12.52	\$	0.0945
2012-13	\$	33,829.00	\$	42,892.00	\$	76,721.00	\$	9,118,541.00	0.8413736	\$	12.94	\$	0.1089
2013-14	\$	33,879.00	\$	25,742.00	\$	59,621.00	\$	9,756,676.00	0.611079	\$	13.56	\$	0.0829
2014-15	\$	34,871.00	\$	25,742.00	\$	60,613.00	\$	10,056,944.00	0.602698	\$	14.11	\$	0.0850
2015-16	\$	32,382.00	\$	25,742.00	\$	58,124.00	\$	7,397,406.00	0.7857349	\$	17.10	\$	0.1344
2016-17	\$	35,850.00	\$	33,542.00	\$	69,392.00	\$	7,078,778.00	0.9802822	\$	16.50	\$	0.1617
2017-18	\$	53,750.00	\$	34,192.00	\$	87,942.00	\$	7,004,603.00	1.2554887	\$	16.40	\$	0.2059
2018-19	\$	64,750.00	\$	29,942.00	\$	94,692.00	\$	7,037,922.00	1.345454	\$	16.30	\$	0.2193

Tax Year	Mil Rate	Commit. date	Cert. Ratio	Q. Rating	State Valuation	State Period	Comments
2000-01	0.01600	7/15/2000	?	?	455,500,000	4/1/2002	
2001-02	0.01660	7/1/2001	95%	8	469,850,000	4/1/2003	
2002-03	0.01690	7/9/2002	91%	9	500,000,000	4/1/2004	
2003-04	0.01690	7/8/2003	91%	9	516,900,000	4/1/2005	
2004-05	0.01670	7/8/2004	?	?	552,450,000	4/1/2006	
2005-06	0.01430	7/1/2005	95%	6	593,050,000	4/1/2007	
2006-07	0.01380	7/7/2006	94%	6	606,250,000	4/1/2008	
2007-08	0.01380	6/29/2007	92%	13	619,000,000	4/1/2009	
2008-09	0.01275	7/1/2008	97%	6	669,700,000	4/1/2010	
2009-10	0.01252	7/1/2009	101%	7	681,000,000	4/1/2011	
2010-11	0.01252	7/1/2010	103%	9	674,500,000	4/1/2012	
2011-12	0.01252	7/1/2011	101%	9	681,300,000	4/1/2013	
2012-13	0.01294	7/2/2012	104%	9	668,950,000	4/1/2014	
2013-14	0.01356	7/12/2013	104%	10	667,350,000	4/1/2015	
2014-15	0.01411	7/1/2014	105%	11	673,000,000	4/1/2016	
2015-16	0.01710	7/1/2015	102%	13	434,800,000	4/1/2017	
2016-17	0.01650	7/1/2016	99%	11	427,850,000	4/1/2018	ratio down 3.88% ratio
2017-18	0.01640	7/5/2017	99%		440,750,000	4/1/2019	estimated
2018-19	0.01630	7/2/2018					