Mayor Zartarian called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 P.M.

Overview of the Budget

Mayor Zartarian reviewed the highlights of the budget with a presentation. Special meeting scheduled after this Public Hearing. Vote for Budget adoption to take place on April 16, 2019. Reviewed revenues generated by the Grand List. Saw a reduction of $373,000 based on building demolition. Municipal Aid was projected to show increase based on the Governors proposed budget. Fund Balance is utilized to balance the budget and proposing to utilize $1.2 million in the proposed budget. Total proposed appropriations of $123.7 million after changes to the Town, Board of Education and CIP. Town is currently proposing funding at 2.8% over last year levels, Board of Education at 2.6%, CIP and Debt Services at 39.9%, and MDC at 2.7%. The Debt Service and CIP are projected for Bonding of the Town Hall project based upon the new funding level of 5.8% of anticipated budget. Appropriations will see an increase of just over $5 million or 4.2%. State Aid is proposed to increase by $2.5 million. Currently showing a proposed Mill Rate increase just under 2.4%. The proposed appropriations increase breaks out as follows; anticipated 5% for vendor increases, 7% for Contractual obligations, $1.9 million over present for BOE Budget increase, Metropolitan District increase for about 2.7% or $117,000, Pension and Benefits increase of $415,000, CIP increase if $1.2 million due to the new target of 5.8% of the budget, and Debt Services anticipated increase of $739,000, or 15% based upon Bond issuance for the Town Hall project. The average impact to a homeowner based on a home value of $147,179 would see a Mill Rate increase of .91 or $134/$1,000. Mayor Zartarian thanked the Town Manager, Finance Department and Town Departments for their assistance in keeping the budget in line.

Public Comment

- Neil Ryan, 237 Brockett Street
  - Thanks staff for the budget presentation. Hopes to see a bipartisan approval of the budget based upon the evening discussion.

- Chet Bogacz, 51 High Ridge
  - Requesting reinstatement of the $2,500 grant increase for total funding of $5,000. The membership is comprised of retired and active members of the Volunteer Fire Department. Assists with future recruitment to the department. Reviewed the assistance that has been given to members and at station locations. Make donations to surrounding agencies that support the community, manage scholarships and support current officers with clothing and uniforms. Maintain a liability/property insurance policy for property owned. Requested Item 0950-0957 be changed to reflect NVFA Veterans instead of NVFD Veterans.

- Mayor Zartarian adjourned the Public Hearing at 6:21 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Krupienski
Acting Recording Secretary