

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes #724

Joint Meeting with Selectmen

Monday, November 29, 2021

Present: Lindsey Blake; Mike Bomba; Alex Duso; Bill Hodgman; Ken Howe; Karen Johnson; Dennis Nadeau; Bill Nebelski; Janice Nichols; April Anderson, School Board Reps; Steve Diorio, Selectmen Board Rep.

Selectmen: Mike Carrier; Steve Diorio; Richard Johnson; Bernie Rideout.

6:36 Chairman Nadeau called the meeting to order.

**Fire Department:** Terry Zavorotny, Fire Chief was present for questions and discussion in regard to the Fire Dept. budget. The budget is up around \$8,000. Terry noted that this is mostly because of inflation with the biggest increase due to building maintenance at the training yard located on Chesterfield Rd. The electricity has been updated to LED lighting. The salary line item was discussed. It was pointed out that the FD does get a COLA increase. It was suggested to raise the salary line. There is a possible line error under office supplies.

**Water Depart:** Jack White, Water Supt. was present to discuss his budgets. It was noted that the budget is up \$13,000 from last year. The OT Salary line was discussed. Jack explained they are on call and guaranteed a minimum of a tow-hour call back. Jack mentioned there are several fixes. Postage should be \$1,500; Uniforms can be reduced down to \$1,500; \$200 for the Town Car can be removed. The bottom line will be reduced to \$551,666 which is a reduction of \$2,200.

**Highway, Transfer Station:** Bob Truesdell, Highway Supt. was present. It was noted the Highway Budget is down \$27,617. Health Insurance, Retirement and Worker's Comp is down \$30,000 due to reductions and new hires. Highway shares phone line with Water Department. There is a cell phone stipend. Training is necessary for various safety issues and for transfer station certifications. Training has been on the back burner this past year due to COVID. Truesdell is working on moving the waster oil furnace at the transfer station to the highway facility.

The Transfer Station budget is up \$8,000. This huge increase is due to Pay-Per-Bags. The Pay-Per-Bag line item went from \$9,500 to \$22,500. Prices were obtained by three vendors.

**Patriotic Purposes:** The budget is up to \$2,100 on the flags.

Another meeting will take place on December 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. between both the Budget Committee and Selectmen with a possible meeting on January 3, 2021 to TA the budgets.

Budget Committee left the Selectmen's Meeting to discuss further matters in the Community Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Jill Collins, Town Administrator