

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 30, 2013**

Present: Bayard Tracy, Chairman; Steve Laskowski, John Koopmann, Jeff Morse, Mike Wiggin, Spofford Fire Precinct; Cliff Emery, Elaine Levlocke, Selectboard Representative; Susan Newcomer, Frank Underwood, Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Precinct, Dan Cotter (arrived at 7:07 PM); Marty Mahoney (arrived at 7:14 PM), Rich Kalich (arrived at 8:15 PM)

Absent: Charlie Perry

Bayard called the meeting to order at 7 PM

Town - Cliff asked to revisit the Highway Operating Budget. Comparing budget to actual in 2012 underspent \$48,154, in 2011 underspent \$41,824, \$113,951 in 2010 and \$40,340 in 2009. *Cliff moved to recommend decreasing the Highway Operating Budget by \$20,000 due to historic overages. The motion was seconded by Jeff.* Steve was concerned about weather issues and over spending the budget. Bayard, Steve, Mike, Dan, Elaine, and Susan voted No. Jeff, Cliff and Frank voted yes. Marty abstained. The motion failed.

Steve moved to recommend article 7 for \$160,000. The motion was seconded by Dan. Steve asked to reduce the contribution to the small equipment CRF next year by the difference between the purchase price and the amount left over in the fund. Susan did not think you could make a deal between future boards. Elaine stated she would not speak to the Selectboard to honor that agreement. Dan asked if the amount and the funding source could be amended at Town Meeting. The answer was yes. Bayard, John, Jeff, Mike, Cliff, Dan and Frank voted No. Steve and Elaine voted yes. The motion failed.

Dan asked if the insurance holiday had been taken into account by the SAU, School, Chesterfield Fire & Rescue and Spofford Fire & Rescue. Amy stated that she had received the Workman's Comp bill and paid it. This is for Property/Liability insurance and it was \$1,556.04 for Chesterfield, \$947 for Spofford, \$1951 for the School to be distributed in August. Dan requested that the various departments report back that this credit to their insurance costs was received.

School – Wayne Woolridge, Superintendent of Schools and Sharyn D'eon, Principal were present.

Marty moved to recommend Article 2 for \$7,722,655. The motion was seconded by Susan. Cliff thanked the School Board for a responsible budget. Steve was concerned about the implications of the \$3,000 raise for the Building Manager considering the situation at the Town Police Department. *Steve moved to recommend \$7,719,655. The motion failed for lack of a second.* Marty stated that the budget was set by the School Board prior to the awareness of the problems at the Police Department. Steve voted No. Bayard, Marty, John, Jeff, Mike, Cliff, Dan, Elaine, Susan and Frank voted yes. The motion was approved.

Article 3: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$60,000 for the rewiring of the data infrastructure of the Chesterfield School including, switches, new wiring, and wireless routers and related expenditures to complete the project, and further to authorize the withdrawal of \$60,000 from the CRF established by voters on March 5, 1994 for such a purpose, or to take any other action in relation thereto. *Marty moved to recommend Article 3. The motion was seconded by Susan.* Bayard, Marty, Steve, John, Jeff, Mike, Cliff, Dan, Elaine, Susan and Frank voted yes. The motion was approved.

Article 4: To see if the District will vote to appropriate and authorize the School Board to transfer up to \$25,000 of its unencumbered funds, if any remain on hand at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2013 to be deposited in the CRF established by voters on March 5, 1994 for the purpose of major renovation/reconstruction of the school buildings and related costs, or to take any other action in relation thereto. Marty stated that with the oil tank project coming up next year it really is imperative to make the contribution. *Marty moved to recommend Article 4. The motion was seconded by Jeff.* The unreserved fund balance is scheduled to be \$175,000 at the end of the year. The oil tank project is estimated at \$45,000. It is believed that this estimate is low. The Capital Reserve Balance will be below \$161,320 because of the locks, roof and driveway projects. Bayard, Marty, Steve, John, Jeff, Mike, Cliff, Dan, Elaine, Susan and Frank voted yes. The motion was approved.

Dan asked about answers to the insurance holiday for the next meeting? The SAU has 23 employees. The Town has 18 full-time employees. The SAU insurance holiday is probably split between all the districts.

Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Precinct – The Trustees of the Trust Fund reports are complete as of 12/31/2012. The balance in the Small Equipment CRF is \$64,883.67. The total articles are \$74,913.00. There is enough in the account if all the warrant articles pass as article 11 is \$7,500 out of Small Equipment CRF and voids article 8 if the grant is awarded. If the account is over expended, the articles are taken in the order that they are approved at the District Meeting.

Article 6 is for 6 SCBA's. The current SCBA's in the department are from 1986. There will be a proposal to get more next year. Frank stated that it was unlikely that the Precinct would get the grant in article 11 because of government funding. The general fund balance as of 2011 was \$29,309. The cash balance as of 12/31/2012 is \$9,845. This number won't be confirmed until the audit is complete. There was a warrant article last year to take \$11,221 out of the general fund to contribute to Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. The revenue raised from taxes is down 13% because of the elimination of the contribution to Large Equipment CRF. Susan was concerned about the discussion about small equipment that never gets purchased. SCBA's protect the firefighters. Steve wanted to remove Small Equipment and Small Equipment Repairs and Equipment Repairs and Maintenance out of the budget to put more purchases into warrant articles.

Article 6: To see if the Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,333 to be added to the already established Chesterfield Fire and Rescue Precinct Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. *Susan moved to recommend article 6. The motion was seconded by Elaine.* Steve voted No. Bayard,

Marty, John, Jeff, Rich, Mike, Cliff, Dan, Elaine, Susan and Frank voted yes. The motion was approved.

Article 8: To see if the Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$36,000 for the purchase of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus and to further authorize the withdrawal of up to \$36,000 from the Chesterfield Fire and Rescue Precinct Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). This article will be void upon the awarding of the grant in Article 11. *Susan moved to recommend article 8. The motion was seconded by Elaine.* Bayard, Marty, Steve, John, Jeff, Rich, Mike, Cliff, Dan, Elaine, Susan and Frank voted yes. The motion was approved.

Article 9: To see if the Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,075 for the purchase of Hose and to further authorize the withdrawal of up to \$3,075 from the Chesterfield Fire and Rescue Precinct Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). *Elaine moved article 9. The motion was seconded by Dan.* Bayard and Steve voted No. Marty, John, Jeff, Rich, Mike, Cliff, Dan, Elaine, Susan, Frank voted Yes. The motion was approved.

Article 10: To see if the Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,169 to be added to the already encumbered \$16,169 for the purchase of LifePak 15 Cardiac Monitor, funding for this purchase will be from a grant in the amount up to \$32,338 and balance not to exceed \$16,169 to come from the Chesterfield Fire and Rescue Precinct Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). This article is not contingent on the receipt of the grant. Mike stated that the LifePak 15 Cardiac Monitor has every bell and whistle known to man. *Elaine moved to recommend article 10. The motion was seconded by Dan.* Rich stated that this was a sophisticated piece of equipment. How many firefighters will be able to use it? There is only 1 paramedic at the department. Mike stated that Spofford has a defibrillator a couple of steps lower that everyone is trained to use. Rich talked about an application for an iphone that can be used to get EKG for around \$200. *There was a motion to limit debate which passed unanimously.* Bayard, Steve, John, Jeff, Rich, Cliff, Dan, Elaine and Frank voted No. Marty, Mike and Susan abstained. The motion was not approved.

Article 11: To see if the Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$142,000 for the purchase of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus with appropriate Firefighter training, funding for this purchase will be from a grant in the amount up to \$142,000 and balance not to exceed \$7,500 to come from the Chesterfield Fire and Rescue Precinct Small Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). This article is contingent on the receipt of the grant. No money is to be raised from taxation. *Susan moved to recommend article 11. The motion was seconded by Dan.* Bayard stated that he did not want article 11 included for consideration of the 10% that the Precinct can add back to the budget since Frank stated it is unlikely that they will get the Grant. Bayard, Steve, John, Jeff, Rich, Cliff,

and Elaine voted No. Steve, Dan and Frank voted yes. Mike and Susan abstained. The motion was not approved.

Spofford Fire Precinct –

Article 5: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the budget committee's recommended amount of \$218,128 for General Government. Mike reported that contracted services were increasing due to building maintenance. The Precinct is working with 2 Boy Scouts on Eagle Projects for Memorials at the Station. The Precinct will need to buy the materials. The Spofford Station has 1 engine, 1 tanker/pumper, rescue vehicle, all wheel drive brush truck and the boat. There is approximately \$4,928 rollover from the previous year. The Precinct has received restitution from the gas theft. Spofford did not report revenue raised from taxes. *Jeff moved to recommend \$218,128 for the operating budget. The motion was seconded by Elaine.* Bayard, Marty, Steve, John, Jeff, Rich, Mike, Cliff, Dan, Elaine, Susan and Frank voted yes. The motion was approved.

Cliff moved to consider Article 5 through 10 together. The motion was seconded by Jeff. Bayard stated that he thought there was enough equipment in town. Mutual Aid has plenty of equipment. Dan stated that you can never have enough water. Bayard, Marty, Steve, John, Jeff, Rich, Mike, Cliff, Dan, Elaine, Susan and Frank voted yes. The motion was approved.

Cliff moved to recommend articles 5 through 10. The motion was seconded by Jeff. Bayard, Marty, Steve, John, Jeff, Rich, Mike, Cliff, Dan, Elaine, Susan and Frank voted yes. The motion was approved.

Article 5: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$33,100 to be added to the Heavy Equipment CRF previously established.

Article 6: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,500 to be added to the Small Equipment CRF previously established.

Article 7: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to be added to the Spofford Water Hole Expendable Trust previously established.

Article 8: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to be added to the Catastrophic Emergency Expendable Trust.

Article 9: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,750 to purchase Fire Hose and a computer and authorize the withdrawal of \$2,750 from the existing Small Equipment CRF created for that purpose.

Article 10: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$13,000 to purchase Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) to replace outdated units.

The next meeting will be February 5th at 7 PM. If anyone is unable to attend the forms will be in Rick's office for signature. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary