

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD  
BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
AUGUST 21, 2012**

Present: Bayard Tracy, Chairman; Marty Mahoney, School Board Representative; Dave Thomas, Spofford Fire Precinct Representative, Richard Kalich, Steve Laskowski, John Koopmann, Elaine Levlocke, Selectboard Representative (arrived at 7:18 PM)

Absent: Susan Newcomer, Charlie Perry, Dan Cotter, and the Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Precinct Representative.

A quorum was not present at 7:00. It was determined to wait to vote for discussion of John Zannotti's resignation.

The meeting was called to order at 7:18 PM.

Marty Mahoney moved to approve the May 1, 2012 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Jeff and passed unanimously.

School Report – Marty submitted a report on the School. There will be 2 kindergarten classrooms next year. A special education teacher has been moved so there will be no affect to this budget. Marty reported that 2 students with significant Special Education requirements moved to Town. The NH Retirement System approved 3% increase to the districts for retirement program. Rich stated that there were 90 full-time employees at the school. Is there a way to restructure the school? The only way is to cut programs or recruit students that would pay tuition. Marty stated that staff has been reduced over the last few years. The buses have been reduced to 1 run. Roofing and paving are complete. There has been a glitch in the removal of the portable and so the project has not been completed. The funds remain encumbered.

Rick stated that there are approximately 1600 houses in Town. The Committee briefly discussed what percentage of those houses use the School.

Town Report – Rick stated that the Transfer Station may be interested in the use of the portable classroom for the book and free shed.

Fire Departments – Rich stated that he is looking at 15 fire calls and 100+ rescue calls annually. When Rick was injured at the Town Office in January it took 28 minutes for the ambulance to arrive from Keene. Penny Cooper, CRFP EMT was on the scene quicker than that. With an aging population are their needs being met? Rich stated that his taxes are \$72 per day and receives no services. Dave stated that you would need 7 people to staff a station for 24 hours per day, 7 days per week plus holidays. Steve agreed that it would be roughly \$1,000,000 a year.

Other – Steve mentioned an idea to take up the budget bi-annually. Rick anticipates some of the budget being completed towards the end of September.

Adjournment – The next meeting will be September 18<sup>th</sup>, to discuss the guidance letter.  
The meeting adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine  
Secretary