

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 1, 2015**

Present: Bayard Tracy, Chairman; Marty Mahoney, School Board Representative; Steve Laskowski, Carole Wheeler, John Koopmann, Rich Kalich, Charlie Perry, Steve Buckley, Spofford Fire Precinct Representative (arrived at 7:06 PM); Sue Newcomer, Rick Cooper, Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Precinct Representative and Gary Winn.

Absent: Dan Cotter

Chairman Tracy called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

Laskowski moved to approve May 26th minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Sue. The Committee asked for more information about the Town Office Bond. Bayard will follow up with Dave Thomas about the Spofford Fire Station bond. The motion passed unanimously.

Newcomer moved to nominate Tracy as Chairman. The motion was seconded by Buckley. Laskowski moved to close nominations for Chairman. The motion was seconded by Wheeler and passed unanimously. Tracy was unanimously elected as Chairman.

Koopmann moved to nominate Winn as Vice-Chair. The motion was seconded by Newcomer. There were no other nominations and Gary Winn was elected unanimously.

Cotter, Kalich and Perry terms expire in March.

There was a discussion about valuation in Cheshire County paperwork that was distributed.

McKeon reviewed the proposed Capital Maintenance Plan. At a contribution rate of \$60,000 it stays positive until 2048. There is \$25,100 in Town Office CRF; \$17,900 in the Library CRF and \$20,800 in the Parks & Rec CRF. The Committee suggested the document only be revised every 5 years. The contribution amount could be reduced and still stay positive for more than 20 years. The Committee asked for a review of expenditures and contributions to the maintenance Capital Reserve Funds for the last 5 years. Expenditures are reviewed at every town meeting prior to approval by taxpayers to continue contributions to the Capital Reserve Funds. There was discussion about the Library participation in the maintenance Plan.

McKeon reported that Chris Lord has been hired as the new Road Agent. The Board of Selectmen are considering combining the Transfer Station and Highway Garage. For the first time ever Ware's Grove was closed last week due to E. Coli. The number of people that can be on the beach is limited by parking. The Budget Committee would be interested in talking to Camp Spofford. Koopmann requested that the budgets this year reflect Total Compensation Packages per employee. The Selectboard have set COLA at zero based on the index. Fuel prices have also been set for budgeting purposes.

The next meeting will be October 27th.

Chesterfield Fire & Rescue – Cooper reported that the new SCBA's were to be delivered tomorrow night. The Precinct is working on a Dredge & Fill application for the Fire Pond on Old Chesterfield Road. The Pond does not have the capacity to put out a fire at the School. The Cab & Chassis on the new truck is being held up in manufacturing and won't be delivered until later in the year.

Spofford Fire Precinct – Buckley reported that they were working on the fire pond for Spofford Station as well. Repairs to the Rescue truck have been completed and repairs to the Geothermal System heating system are ongoing.

School – Mahoney reported the current enrollment in K-8 is 271 students; 270 were budgeted. They are fully staffed at 16 Teachers; 4 one-on-one aides and 12 classroom aides. There are 2 Kindergartens. There is one Second Grade of 21 students and one Fourth Grade of 18 students. There are 3 Full-Time special educators one position has remained unfilled. Five Veteran Teachers retired at the end of last year. Lots of Building Maintenance projects were completed: Gym roof replaced; 2 Fifth Grade Floors replaced; Walkway from Kitchen to the Playground; Basketball Court resurfaced; Bushes around the flag pole and in front of the music room are gone.

The new Superintendent of Schools will also be Superintendent of Towns. The Assistant Superintendent has resigned. The SAU is looking to hire a Director of Curriculum Development. The End of Year report will not be available until the audit is completed. Mahoney reported that he would have Janelle Swanson, Business Administrator for Towns, present the final report. The balance at the end of year for unencumbered funds is over \$300,000. The School Board voted to spend \$129,000 on building maintenance projects: insulation of the attic and upgrade air circulation and recovery. There was around \$268,000 of funds not spent on Special Education Services.

Laskowski moved to adjourn at 9:07 PM. The motion was seconded by Cooper and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary