

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 27, 2020**

Present: Steve Laskowski, Chairman; George Goulet, Vice-Chair; Dan Cotter, Alex Winn, Judy Idelkope, Scott Riddlemoser, Burt Riendeau, Gregg Denzler, Brad Roscoe, Jeanny Aldrich, Selectboard Representative; Rick Cooper, Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Precinct Representative; Rob Hodgkins, Spofford Fire Precinct Representative (arrived at 8:20 PM)

Absent: Genienne Hockensmith, School Board Representative

As Chair of the Chesterfield Budget Committee, due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this Committee is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to the meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, this is to confirm that we are:

a) Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means;

We are utilizing the Zoom platform for this electronic meeting. All members of the Committee have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through the Zoom platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone # 1-646-558-8656 and password 919 7878 4410 or by clicking on the following website address:

<https://zoom.us/j/91978784410?pwd=V3NkNllo5RDQ2VElxeIpqQWFTVy9ZUT09>
passcode 870132

b) Providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting;

We previously gave notice to the public of how to access the meeting using Zoom, and instructions are provided on the Town of Chesterfield website at: <https://chesterfield.nh.gov/>.

c) Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access;

If anyone has a problem, please call 802-579-6199 or email at:
amy.lafontaine@nhchesterfield.com.

d) Adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting.

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, we will adjourn the meeting and have it rescheduled at that time.

Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by Roll Call vote.

Dan, Alex, Judy, Scott, Burt, Gregg, Brad, Jeanny, Rick, George and Steve all agreed to meet and were alone except for Steve and Rick at the Fire Station together.

Police – The police department is down 2 Officers. They would like to reallocate \$15,270 for a new server storage and configuration. The new Server will be compatible with CrimeStar. Brad moved a resolution to favorably agree with the reallocation of funds for the Police Department for this purpose. The motion was seconded by Scott.

Dan, Alex, Judy, Scott, Burt, Gregg, Brad, Jeanny, Rick and George voted Yes. The motion passed unanimously.

The Conservation Commission is moving forward with a proposal from Moosewood Ecological for \$18,460 to update the Natural Resource Inventory (NRI). The funds to come from the Conservation Fund.

Highway – Public Works Director Salary is up 5.03%. This is due to COLA and a step. There are 3 or 4 more years left on his Contract. Chris is in charge of Highway, Transfer Station, Cemetery, Maintenance of Town Buildings and assists Parks & Rec as well. Uniforms are up 23%. Everyone now has shirts that identify them as Town Employees. Highway Department Salaries were reviewed.

Asphalt is down. Gas, Oil & Diesel are also down. Chris is now catching up on 2020 Culvert Replacements. The North Shore Road Project has been delayed until 2021. There will be warrant articles for that and funding to come from Highway Block Grant and Roadways Construction/Reconstruction.

Solid Waste- Full-Time salaries are up 16.1%. Part-Time salaries are down \$16,797 due to elimination of a Part-time employee that was introduced last year. Fuel is down 53% and Tipping Fees have increased. The Selectboard is proposing a committee to look at the future needs of the Town for waste disposal.

Cemeteries – COLA increase for the employees.

Financial Administration- COLA for Tax Collector, Deputy Tax Collector and Deputy Treasurer. Increase for Budget Committee Secretary to reflect cost and more meetings. IT is up. Budget Committee training has been added for Right to Know workshop and other educational opportunities for members.

Forest Fires – No changes. A question was asked about the balance in the wildfire suppression expendable trust.

General Insurance - Insurance otherwise not allocated – There was a hard copy provided but no electronic copy. The Committee will wait for everyone to have it to discuss.

Steve thanked Jeanny for her input and knowledge on the Town Budgets. Dan seconded the Motion.

Ex-Officio Budgets – Spofford Fire Precinct Rob reported No surprises with the current budget. Chesterfield Fire & Rescue – Rick reported no surprises with the current budget. The new Truck was not built with AWD so there was a delay in delivery. It will be delivered early next year. The Precinct put forth a big down payment and saved a big percentage on the overall cost of the truck. School – No Representative Present.

Minutes – Dan moved to review the October 13th minutes. The motion was seconded by Rick. The Committee discussed having action items at the end of the minutes. Minutes should provide a brief summary of the meetings. The Conservation Fund receives the funds from the Current Use penalty because of a vote at Town Meeting.

Dan moved to approve October 13th minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Brad. Dan, Alex, Judy, Scott, Gregg, Brad, Jeanny, Rick and George voted Yes. Burt and Rob abstained. The motion passed by majority.

Public Comment – John Zannotti requested being a member of the Solid Waste Committee and urged the Committee to keep a record of requests for information in the minutes.

The next meeting will be November 10th. Elections and Parks & Rec and other ancillary budgets should be available for this meeting. Dan moved to adjourn at 9:27 PM. The motion was seconded by Brad. Dan, Alex, Judy, Scott, Burt, Gregg, Brad, Jeanny, Rick, Rob and George voted Yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary