

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 12, 2021**

Present: Steve Laskowski, Chairman; George Goulet, Vice Chair; Dan Cotter, Alex Winn, Judy Idelkope, Scott Riddlemoser, Burt Riendeau, Gregg Denzler, Brad Roscoe, Gary Winn, Selectboard Representative; Rick Cooper, Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Precinct Representative; and Genienne Hockensmith, School Board Representative.

Absent: Robert Hodgkins, Spofford Fire District Representative

Call to Order

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 (New York) or # 1-312-626-6799 US (Chicago) and meeting id: 346 680 3059 and password 261521 or by clicking on the following website address:

<https://zoom.us/j/93617173696?pwd=WHVNZENrbEVNZ0NOWUQRd1lYWHPiZz09>

Meeting ID: 936 1717 3696

Passcode: 218799

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.

School – Sharyn D’Eon, Principal, reported that the School had received 2 grants this year a small one for \$26,000 early on and \$84,000 more recently to cover PPE, sanitizer and other pandemic related expenses. All Students can receive breakfast and lunch for free. The Committee asked if the full cost of these meals are reimbursed?

The School Budget is up 2.4% or 210,734. There were 286 students projected this year for K-8. as of October 1st only 261 were in attendance. The enrollment to date is 258. Sharyn stated that over 30 Families are home schooling right now and that does not include private school enrollments. The School is projecting 298 enrolled in K-8 next year. 5 additional students are projected at the High School next year.

Regular Instruction is up \$61,193 due to guaranteed maximum rate for insurance increase 6.1%. NH Retirement system up 18.09%. The tuition for Keene High School has increased. The Spanish Teacher has retired so Spanish is 50% purchased from Marlborough.

Special Instruction is level funded. There is a pre-school Out of District placement of \$32,800.

Bi-lingual is up 2.4% primarily due to salary and benefits.

Co-Curricular is down \$2,084. There are 2 classes proposed to Nature’s Classroom and outside bleacher repairs.

Extended School Year is up \$2,843

Attendance is level funded

Social Worker is level funded.

Guidance is up \$4,607. Due to Growth and Performance and IXL testing software.

Health is up \$54,656 due to LNA hired for an IEP. There is \$1,100 increase for PPE as well.

Psychological Services is up \$1,914 due to computer purchase.

Speech is up \$11,134 due to Summer IEP’s.

PT/OT is up \$3,191. There is no Physical Therapist it is contracted service. The Occupational Therapist is in-house and shared with Westmoreland.

Staff Support is up \$60

Media is up \$3,061

Staff Consultant is up \$20,000 due to a pre-school behavioral analyst and a school tuition increasing by \$2,000.

School Board is up \$985. Legal funding for the negotiated contract is in this year’s budget.

SAU is up \$38,833.

Principal’s Office is up \$11,110

Building is down \$10,167. The Committee asked to see a Capital Improvements to know when repairs and maintenance are due on the building. There is an \$82,700 roof article coming out of the Capital Reserve Fund.

Transportation is up \$61,773. A Van needs to be added to transport children to the main route.

Staff Services is Level Funded

Tech is down \$9,775

Architecture Study is \$0

Transfers are down \$45,000

The Chesterfield Education Association Contract if agreed upon will be a separate warrant article.

The balance in the Capital Reserve Fund is \$260,800 and the expendable trust is \$205,317.

Brad moved the January 5th minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Dan. Alex, Dan, Gary, Brad, Gregg, Burt, Scott, Judy, Rick, Genienne, George and Steve voted Yes. The motion passed by majority.

Steve stated that three members are up for renewal on the Committee: Burt, Gregg and Brad. The filing period is the 20th through the 29th.

The Public Hearing is January 30th 1 & 3 PM. All documents should be available at the Town Office the week before the 30th for the public to review.

The next meeting is January 19th if needed.

Old Business – Library questions are still outstanding. The Loader equipment is a street sweeper attachment. A question was asked about the total spent on the Town Hall Annex.

Brad moved to adjourn at 9:04 PM. The motion was seconded by Rick. Alex, Dan, Gary, Brad, Gregg, Burt, Scott, Judy, Rick, Genienne, George and Steve voted Yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary