Chichester Board of Selectmen

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday January 23, 2019

**Joint Board of Selectmen and Advisory Budget Committee Meeting**

**Members Present:** Tom Jameson, Ed Millette, Richard Bouchard, Jodi Pinard Town Administrator Kristy Barnouski Administrative Assistant

**Budget Committee:** Marlene Hammond, Stephen MacCleery, Don Peterman, Doug Hall, Mike Williams, Tom Houle.

**Attendees:** Stan Brehm, Donna Chagnon and other members of the public.

Mr. Jameson called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

The Budget Committee wanted to go over some recommendations that they had for the Board of Selectmen.

Mrs. Hammond stated that the Committee recommended that the Selectmen Stipends be reduced in order to give more raises to the employees. They were not in favor of any stipend including the Planning Board Chair that is proposed or the Cemetery Sexton.

The Board stated that they had met the night before in nonpublic and discussed employee compensation. They came up with percentages which totaled $22,000.

Mr. Jameson stated that feels that some of the volunteer positons are more like jobs than a volunteering and a stipend was warranted.

**Cemetery Sexton-**

The consensus of the Board was to leave the stipends in place and decide at the public hearing.

The budget committee wanted to discuss the cemetery sexton more. They questioned if they really needed a sexton or an actual survey done. Mr. Hall recommended checking with Historical Society for more information on survey and maps. Both board also questioned how many hours and specific duties that the sexton would work and preform as well. Mrs. Pinard stated she would reach out to the Cemetery Committee to ask them to prepare this information for the public hearing.

**Police Department-**

Both Boards discussed the pay of the department and where they felt there was a gap in pay. The Selectmen felt that the full time patrolman needed to be increased to put them closer to other Towns in the wage study.

**Ambulance-**

Mrs. Pinard stated that she is working with DRA to formulate the wording to change the purpose of the Rescue Vehicle Special Fund. The change will allow for expenditures for payroll and operating to be paid out of the fund. This particular warrant article will need 2/3 votes to pass.

The Board discussed where to put the audit, in the budget or the warrant article. Mrs. Pinard stated that $7,500.00 is a rough estimate and is waiting to hear back for an actual estimate for MRI. Mr. MacCleery stated he would rather see it on the warrant. The consensus of the Board was to have it in the budget.

**Planning Board Warrant Articles-**

Mr. Brehm spoke on the two warrant articles proposed by the Planning Board, one for Zoning and one for the Master Plan. There was discussion on whether or not they should be separate or together. The consensus was to leave them separately on the warrant.

**BCEP-**

Mr. Jameson stated that there is no increase this year for BCEP, however one should be expected in the near future.

**Doug Hall Presentation-**

Mr. Hall gave a handout and did a presentation on how to project the possible tax rate for 2019. He estimated that with his calculations the municipal tax rate would go from $4.99 to $5.31 in 2019.

**Adjournment:**

Being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Millette and seconded by Mr. Bouchard to adjourn the meeting at 8:09pm. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Not approved until signed

Kristy Barnouski, Administrative Assistant

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