

Chichester Board of Selectmen
Minutes of Meeting
Tuesday December 4, 2019

Members Present: Richard Bouchard, Ed Millette, Jason Weir, and Jodi Pinard Town Administrator and Kristy Barnouski Administrative Assistant

Advisory Budget Committee Members present: Stephen MacCleery, Marlene Hammond, Tom Houle and Don Peterman.

Others Present: Alan Quimby, Donna Chagnon, Russell Blaney, Paul Sanborn, Stan Brehm and other members of the public.

Call to Order: Mr. Bouchard called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

Mrs. Chagnon asked the Board if it was possible to keep a path shoveled at the gazebo in the green space at Town Hall for any future events there such as holiday caroling or a tree lighting. The Board agreed that space could be left open for events.

Mrs. Chagnon also volunteered her husband and herself to shovel the stairs at Town Hall from the lower parking lot to the upper.

Mrs. Pinard stated that they have not been maintained traditionally throughout the winter and she does not advise having a volunteer shoveling for liability purposes.

The Board stated they would discuss this with the Highway Department to see if they could shovel before making any decisions.

Budget

Selectmen-

Mrs. Pinard stated that there has been a reduction in revenues and that land use change tax is decreasing as well.

She went over increases including the moderator's salary due to increased elections, Health insurance going up 4.4% and workers compensation going up.

Mrs. Pinard went over the warrant articles pertaining to the Selectmen. She is requesting to put \$30,000 into Town facilities, \$15,000 into office equipment and \$50,000 into Town parking lots.

Planning Board-

Mr. Brehm stated that the Planning Board has been working on the Master Plan and have completed four chapters with the CNHRPC. They are asking to complete another four chapters this year. The

Planning Board will be placing doing a warrant article for the Master Plan update in the amount of \$4,000.

Mr. Brehm stated there is also a need more money put in the advertising line for the Planning Board as the Suncook Sun no longer exists and the Concord Monitor is much more expensive.

Mr. Brehm also requested that a \$1500 stipend be added for the Planning Board Chair.

Ms. Barnouski stated that Mr. Brehm puts in a lot of time and effort and the stipend is warranted. There is a lot required of the Planning Board chair. He attends department head meetings, TRC meetings, and there are many hours on the phone with myself, the engineers or applicants or the attorney working through issues.

Fire Department-

Warden Quimby stated that the Fire Department was awarded a grant for an exhaust system in the bays and they are working through the steps to receive the funds.

He stated that payroll is now combined fire and ambulance down to three lines instead of being separate as they essentially run as the same department.

He stated that there are increases in the budget including night coverage, Capital Area dues have gone up 2%, personal equipment has gone up due to per diems, annual hose testing program, and supplies due to being busier.

Mrs. Pinard stated that the ambulance revenue fund has approximately \$233,105 to date. From January until December the fund has increased \$104,000.

The Boards had a discussion on where the ambulance revenue should go. Should it be spent at the Fire Department or affect the general taxation.

Warden Quimby reviewed the Fire Department warrant articles with the Board including outdated spreader/extraction tools, fire gear extractor and dryer, and CIP deposits.

The Board discussed putting together a narrative to explain the warrant articles so they understand what exactly is being asked for.

Forestry Budget-

Warden Quimby went over the forestry budget and warrant articles. There are no changes to the budget. He put forward a warrant article to match a grant for firefighting equipment.

Capital Improvement Program-

Mrs. Pinard stated that she had updated the Trust Fund balances.

Mr. Weir stated that the budget has ended up with a significant increase which cannot be maintained. He stated they recently visited the school Board and asked them for a 0% increase and the Town's is up \$400,000.

Mrs. Pinard stated that the operating budget is not up that much, the bulk of the increases are coming from the roads.

Mr. Weir stated that it is irresponsible for these to Boards to perpetuate it.

Mr. Houle asked if the Board of Selectmen will be going back to the school.

The Board stated that it had not been discussed.

Adjournment:

Being no further discussion a motion was made by Mr. Millette and seconded by Mr. Bouchard to adjourn the meeting at 8:04pm. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Barnouski, Administrative Assistant

Not approved until signed

Richard Bouchard

Edward Millette

Jason Weir