

**Chichester Board of Selectmen**  
Minutes of Meeting  
Tuesday January 14, 2020

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

**Advisory Budget Committee Members present:** Tom Houle, Stephen MacCleery, Don Peterman, and Tara Blaney

**Others Present:** Chief Clarke, Nick Wood, Ben Saturley, Tom and Tammy Jameson, Donna Chagnon and other members of the public.

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

**Budget-**

Mr. Hall discussed wanted to reflect the actual amount raised by municipal taxes in 2019 in the budget which should read \$1,664,902.00

Mr. Houle would like to cut some more from the budget.

Mr. Millette stated that there is more to discuss, however the way it sits with adjustments to the operating budget and warrant articles the budget is almost even.

**Salaries-**

Mr. Millette stated that we should continue to take care of our employees and recommended a 3% increase for the Town Administrator and Administrative Assistant.

Chief Clarke stated that the Police Department would like to fairly paid given the compensation study. He doesn't want to lose anyone over a little bit of money. After reviewing the compensation study from the State, the Board gave increases to the Police Department depending on years of experience and rank ranging form 5-8%.

**Planning and Zoning-**

Advertisement is up due to increase cost to use the Concord Monitor.

**Cemetery-**

Mr. Millette stated that the Cemetery Trustees asked for assistance and should be considered. This will be an ongoing problem.

Mrs. Jameson stated that sextons are not just for large Towns, many small Towns have them as well such as Epsom and Candia.

### **Fire/Ambulance Fund-**

Mr. Millette stated that the Fire Departments electricity costs should be lower due to the generator repairs made.

The Board had a lengthy discussion on the ambulance fund and if the fund should be changed for a percent or amount to go into the general fund. Mrs. Pinard used the wording on the warrant that was used by the Town of Epsom. The Board discussed changing the wording.

Mr. MacCleery worried the Board may not have the Fire Departments support on this issue.

Mr. Millette stated that the Department is skeptical, and he doesn't think that the Board of Selectmen should be the agents of the fund.

Mrs. Pinard will do more research on wording and discuss it with DRA. No decisions were made.

### **Highway-**

Mrs. Pinard stated that Mr. Plunkett sent her his concerns regarding the CIP reductions which were if you want to use the CIP to purchase items then you the Town should fund it.

Mr. MacCleery stated that we would like to fund all of them but we just cant afford it.

Mr. Wood asked why there is a reduction in gravel and roads since they have not improved. The Board stated it was due to a culvert purchase that wasn't needed this year.

### **Welfare-**

The welfare officer was commended on doing a great job.

Mr. Weir proposed raising the welfare stipend to \$6,000. The Board agreed.

### **Parks and Rec-**

The Board changed Parks and Rec supplies line to 4520-24 to \$500.

After adjustments made the new total increase is 7.4% with an increase of \$187,538.

The next regular budget meeting will be on January 28, 2020 and the Public Hearing for the budget will be on February 4, 2020.

### **Other Business-**

Mr. Wood stated that Hillard Road needs repair and its worse in the beginning of the road with many potholes. Mrs. Pinard will contact Mr. Plunket to make the repairs.

Mrs. Pinard provided a letter from Doug Hall to the Board regarding the attendance of the RAC meetings. He was upset that the last meeting only himself and Mr. Plunkett showed up. Mr. Weir will reach out to Doug about his concerns.

The Board discussed the distinction between pea stone and crushed stone for use of gravel roads. The Board asked Mrs. Pinard to redo directive to be clearer and more specific regarding the use of stone.

**Adjournment:**

Being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Bouchard and seconded by Mr. Millette to adjourn the meeting at 9:36pm. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Not approved until signed

Jodi Pinard, Town Administrator

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Richard Bouchard

Edward Millette

Jason Weir