

Chichester Board of Selectmen

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, October 26, 2022

Members Present: Richard Bouchard, Ed Millette, Stephen MacCleery, and Jodi Pinard Town Administrator

Advisory Budget Committee Members Present: Kathy Doutt, Tara Blaney, Don Peterman

Members of the public: none

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

Appointments

CIP Discussion with Advisory Budget Committee

The boards jointly discussed how to fund large purchases. The discussion was whether to deposit into the capital reserve funds or go to a lease purchase. It was discussed what would be better for the town and tax payers due to working to keep the tax rate as level as possible.

The Fire Department CIP request was reviewed and discussion of the not being able to fully fund the fire apparatus in the capital reserve funds due to the high cost. Discussion regarding the potential to delay the purchase of the requested new forestry vehicle. Clarification was asked as to why the truck was needed and the original submittal was reference as well as this forestry having a larger water tank which in turn would provide more water.

Consensus of both Boards was to ask the Fire Department what would be the outcome of waiting a year to purchase the new forestry and what is the preferred purchase method, lease or capital reserve fund.

Consensus of both Boards was to keep the minimum funding for each of the following Capital Reserve Fund at the following levels:

Town Office Equipment	\$20,000
Town Facilities	\$50,000
Government Vehicle Maint	\$20,000 (agreed to in 2022 budget season)

Discussion regarding the Town owned Parking Lots occurred. **Consensus of both Boards** was to get the Grange Hall Parking lot paved and revisit the other in the coming years. Once all driveways are complete, they will then fall under the Road Agent for maintenance and repair.

The Highway CIP request was discussed by both Boards. The boards reviewed the requests and wanted to know from the Road Agent which piece of equipment he felt would be the best fit for Chichester, the backhoe or the rubber tire excavator. Both were not sure that both pieces of equipment were needed. The grader was also discussed. **Consensus of both Boards** was to remove the grader from the CIP

request and utilize it until it can not longer be fixed, also add money into the operating budget for repairs and revisit the grader purchase in a few years.

The budget memo and budget schedule were reviewed and finalized.

Mrs. Pinard was directed to add into the budget a place holder of an 8% wage increase for employees. It was also asked that when developing budgets for everyone to consider the potential increase and look to reduce budgets where possible.

Adjournment: Being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Millette and seconded by Mr. MacCleery to adjourn the meeting at 8:38pm. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. MacCleery, aye. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi Pinard

Town Administrator

Richard Bouchard

Edward Millette

Stephen MacCleery