

Chichester Board of Selectmen

Minutes of Meeting

Tuesday February 7, 2023

Members Present: Richard Bouchard, Ed Millette, Stephen MacCleery and Jodi Pinard Town Administrator, Kristy Jobin Administrative Assistant

Members of the Advisory Budget Committee: Don Peterman, Kathy Doult, Tara Blaney

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

Others Present: Chief Quimby, Chief Wright, Ewen MacKinnon, Heather Chiavaras, Craig Sykes, Pat Clarke, Richard Moore, Bob Mann, Richard & Sandra Millette, Christine Millette, Carolyn Pynes, Stephen Cote, Diane Mobbs, Zach Boyijian, and other members of the public.

Mr. Bouchard opened the meeting at 6:00pm

Public Budget Hearing

Mr. MacKinnon, the moderator, went through the budget line by line stopping for the public's questions.

Mrs. Pinard notated that she had changed line 3120 from \$15,000 to \$22,400 and line 3509 from \$23,000 to \$23,500 with regards to the revenues.

Mr. Mann asked where the 8% COLA figure came from.

Mr. Bouchard explained that COLA is up over 8% currently and that in the years past the Town has always went with at least COLA. He stated that there were other cuts made to ensure that the employees would be able to receive a pay adjustment.

Mr. Millette stated that we have used COLA as a standard for a number of years. Some years pay studies have been utilized. The Town has always maintained at least cola and we have not done a market study in the few years or since covid.

Mr. Moore asked about the work that needs to be done on Fredwood Drive.

Mr. Bouchard stated that it will come out of the road reconstruction line.

Mr. Moore stated that the development started in late 70's with its own roads. Around 1980 the Town discussed taking over the Roads, but the people who lived there needed to bring it up to Town standards, which was a surcharge for 10 years. We paid to have a paved road and would like to keep a paved road.

Mr. Millette stated that it is going to be repaired this year with road reconstruction lines.

The total amount to be raised is \$2,108,150.00 that is an increase of 4.27% in the amount of \$86,386.00 if the operating budget and all special warrant articles pass at town meeting.

Warrant Articles-

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of **\$384,000** for the purpose of purchasing and outfitting an ambulance for the Fire/Rescue Department, and to further authorize the Selectmen to withdraw **\$384,000** from the Rescue Vehicle and Equipment Special Revenue Fund for that purpose. (Majority vote required) Roll call vote. MacCleery, aye. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. The Board of Selectman **does** recommend this article. Peterman, aye. Douth, aye. Blaney, aye. The Advisory Budget Committee **does** recommend this article. **(Approximate tax impact \$0.00)**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$17,000** for the purpose of purchasing a six-year service plan from Stryker Medical for the care and maintenance of the Fire/Rescue Department's MTS Power Load Systems. The sum of **\$17,000** to be withdrawn from the Rescue Vehicle and Equipment Special Revenue Fund. (Majority vote required) Roll call vote. MacCleery, nay. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. The Board of Selectman **does** recommend this article. Peterman, aye. Douth, aye. Blaney, aye. The Advisory Budget Committee **does** recommend this article. **(Approximate tax impact \$0.00)**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$12,000** for the purpose of defraying the cost of running the ambulance service. The sum of **\$12,000** to be withdrawn from the Rescue Vehicle and Equipment Special Revenue Fund. (Majority vote required) Roll call vote. MacCleery, aye. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. The Board of Selectman **does** recommend this article. Peterman, aye. Douth, aye. Blaney, aye. The Advisory Budget Committee **does** recommend this article. **(Approximate tax impact \$0.00)**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$322,000** for the purpose of purchasing and outfitting a forestry vehicle for the Fire/Rescue Department. Ninety-Five percent (95%) of these funds **\$305,900** will come from Federal Grant Funding and Five percent (5%) of these funds **\$16,100** to come from the Forestry Truck Capital Reserve Fund created for this purpose. (Majority vote required) Roll call vote. MacCleery, aye. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. The Board of Selectman **does** recommend this article. Peterman, aye. Douth, aye. Blaney, aye. The Advisory Budget Committee **does** recommend this article. **(Approximate tax impact \$0.00)**

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$256,490** to replace the Highway Department Loader with a 2023 Loader with a three-yard bucket, to also include a 4 in 1 bucket, set of forks, sweeper, and extended service plan. and to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$40,587** to be raised by general taxation for the first year's lease payment for this purpose. This 7-year lease/purchase agreement contains an escape clause. (Majority vote required) Roll call vote. MacCleery, aye. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. The Board of Selectmen **does** recommend this article. Peterman, aye. Douth, aye. Blaney, aye. The Advisory Budget Committee **does** recommend this article. **(Approximate Tax Impact \$.12)**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$49,000** for the reconstruction and paving of the lower portion of the Chichester Town Hall parking lot. The sum of **\$49,000** to be withdrawn from the Town Owned Parking Lots Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority vote required) Roll call vote. MacCleery, aye. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. The Board of Selectmen **does** recommend this article. Peterman, aye. Douth, aye. Blaney, aye. The Advisory Budget Committee **does** recommend this article. **(Approximate Tax Impact \$.00)**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$15,000** to complete a study on the space needs of all town buildings. This would be completed if recommended by Space Needs Committee and the Board of Selectmen. The sum of **\$15,000** to be from general taxation. (Majority vote required) Roll call vote. MacCleery, aye. Millette, aye. Bouchard, aye. The Board of Selectmen **does** recommend this article. Peterman, aye. Douth, aye. Blaney, aye. The Advisory Budget Committee **does** recommend this article. **(Approximate Tax Impact \$.05)**

To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$49,500** to replace the generator and wiring for the new generator at the Highway Department. The sum of **\$49,500** to be from general taxation. (Majority vote required) Roll

3. Utilizing retainage.

She stated that they decided that they will not be asking taxpayers to pay the difference.

The next school budget meeting will be held on February 8, 2023.

Fire Department-

Chief Quimby stated that Mr. Sanborn went to do a final inspection for the new truck, which is slated to arrive in NH in a couple weeks, which will then go to the Lakes region fire to get outfitted.

Chief Quimby reported in January there were 51 calls of service including a building fire on pleasant St. There was also a snow mobile accident with a broken leg on trial.

Ambulance two is now back in service.

Chief Quimby reported that there was training held with both the Fire and Police departments for training in the warm zone. They plan to continue to work together.

Police Department-

Chief Wright reported 109 calls of service in January, only four of which were motor vehicle accidents.

He stated that he has received two quotes for the PD doors and is waiting for a third.

Chief Wright reported working together with the Fire Department to do EMS in the warm zone training and is hoping to set up more.

Officer Wood passed her entrance exam and is expected to graduate from the Police Academy in June.

Chief Wright asked to accept a donation in the amount of \$4,000 for training from Global Partners. He would like to do additional training for ground fighting doing Brazilian jujitsu for the department.

Mr. Bouchard made a motion and Mr. Millette seconded to accept funds pursuant to RSA 31:19 the board of selectman shall accept an authorized expenditures of unanticipated funds in the amount of \$4,000.00 for training to be done for the Police Department. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. MacCleery, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

Highway-

Mr. Sykes reported that the Highway Department has been busy with storms. He reported that they have been doing patrol work getting an idea of what needs to be replaced.

Mr. Sykes reported that they are approaching the end phase of getting the 550-truck delivered.

Mr. Sykes reported that he has been addressing drainage issues on Staniels Road.

He reported that the shed is stocked up on product for the rest of the season.

Mr. Sykes reported that there is a logger who has asked to utilize Granny Howe Road and is willing to provide a bond for use. He would like to check with the Town engineer to provide a dollar amount for the bond. He is concerned about the road being torn up. He asked for permission to move forward with the bond and protect our interest.

Mrs. Pinard suggested using a weight limit for Granny Howe Road. She stated that the Town already receives complaints all the time and the road will be damaged.

Statistics for December:

Atrium:

- Check-in's: 330
- Check-out's: 380
- Renewed: 82
- In-House Use: 12
- Added patrons: 7
- Deleted patrons: 4

Libby (formerly Overdrive):

- 108 Ebooks Checked out
- 268 Audiobooks Checked out
- 51 Kindle Books Checked out
- 22 Magazines Checked out

Hoopla:

- 50 total circulations (2.4 circulations per patron, and 4 new patrons)

Abatelements-

Mr. Bouchard made a motion Mr. MacCleery seconded to approve the abatement for Map 4 Lot 151-1 in the amount of \$116.99. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. MacCleery, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

Mr. Bouchard made a motion Mr. Millette seconded to approve the abatement for Map 4 Lot 156-42RV in the amount of \$254.00. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. MacCleery, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

Adjournment: Being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Millette and seconded by Mr. MacCleery to adjourn the meeting at 9:09 pm. Roll call vote. Millette, aye. MacCleery, aye. Bouchard, aye. **Motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristy Jobin, Administrative Assistant

Richard Bouchard

Edward Millette

Stephen MacCleery