

Town of Seymour
Board of Finance

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Minutes

Budget Deliberations
Monday, February 26, 2018 at 7:00pm
Norma Drummer Room, Seymour Town Hall

Members Present: Jim Cretella, Richard Demko, Kristyn Hanewicz, Beverly Kennedy, Bill Sawicki, and John Stelma

Members Absent: Heather McDaniel, Gary Popielasz (alternate)

Others Present: Tom Eighme, Doug Zaniewski, Christopher DeRosa, Cynthia Kenney, Todd Andrews, Chris Edwards, Michael Lombardi, John Hannon III, Matt Calzone, Al Rochelle.

Item #1 – Call Meeting to order

Chairman Bill Sawicki called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Item #2 – Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone saluted the Flag and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item #3 – Public Comment

None

Item #4 – Deliberation & Discussion of 2018/2019 Budget

Discussion and presentation of Fire Department Budget by Michael Lombardi (Fire Chief):

- #101 – Salary Chiefs – not used
- #105 – Salaries - \$3,000 increase for storm standbys if needed
- #110 – Apparatus Maintenance Manager – not used
- #120 – Clerk - \$24,720 – currently do not have one – part time position – less than 19 hours/week
- #125 – (Board) Secretary Fees – decrease \$2,000. The \$1,700 amount included extra for special meetings that usually did not have
- #220 – Social Security – from town
- #340 – Purchased Professional Service – same
- #350 – Education/Meeting/Seminars - \$150 increase because cost of education for courses has increased
- #430 – Repairs & Maintenance – decrease of \$5,000
- #530 – Communications & Telephones – includes \$3,000 increase – dispatch company has switched to Next Gen System – better information available on i-pads automatically – better communication to all the team; we will upgrade and get the Next Gen or Spotted Dog system.
- #580 – Travel – decrease of \$150 – previous years have not used so just kept \$50 in there
- #610 – General Supplies – decrease of \$1,000 - previously used only \$3,000
- #615 – Clothing – increase \$500 – due to increased clothing costs – still buying 10 sets per year.
- #622 – Electricity – from town - same
- #624 – Heating Fuel – from town – same

- #626 – Gasoline & Diesel – from town – same
- #720 – Building Improvements – same
- #740 – Equipment Capital - \$23,640 decrease – due to cylinder replacement project – last year was the first year so needed more. The \$30,000 is the yearly amount for the cylinders.
- #741 – Equipment Lease – not used
- #743 – Machinery & Equipment – OSHA – same – used for required testing of hoses, etc.
- #745 – Machinery & Equipment – Non-Capital – used for regular replacement of equipment – hoses (definite amount not sure yet – need to do testing first); \$11,760 for cylinders – will keep this amount in the budget and when cylinders are paid for then will use the money for the harnesses.

Discussion/Questions:

- John: Asked about Secretary Fees – are for the secretary @ both board meetings – the \$1,700 amount included additional amount for special meetings, but we have not used that extra.
- John: Asked about Clerk position – do not currently have a clerk, the chiefs have been doing the work
- Beverly: Asked about communications contract - We do not have to worry about being in contract with Verizon – can switch to the Next Gen system. Northwest Public Safety has upgraded their dispatch system.
- Rich: Asked about Building Improvements – Doug Zaniewski said that this line item is used for needed general building and equipment maintenance – for example the garage doors, floor cleaning, etc.
- Todd Andrews said that the buildings are in great need of work. @ Citizens, the vinyl windows do not close (causes a heat loss); timbers on the towers need work, bay floors are crumbling; Great Hill is in dire need of toilets being replaced. The buildings have been neglected for a long time.
- Bill Sawicki asked if the Fire Department could put together a list of needs (for the Capital Plan). If we can get that list before we begin deliberations, maybe we can get some of them in the budget. After putting the list together, present to the Board of Selectman and send Bill Sawicki/Board of Finance a copy also.
- Michael Lombardi said that we need to come up with a way to have a fund where money can be set aside yearly to save for large items like a truck. Bill Sawicki asked if the Fire Department had asked Doug about a Capital Non-Recurring Appropriation in the General Fund budget. In July, the money is moved from the Fund Balance to a “Savings” account. Make sure that this fund is set up and let the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance know. This way when the town goes out for funding, this amount is included. Currently the truck is in the Strategic Plan.
- Michael Lombardi also said that the Department is growing. Currently there are 106 members. 20 are Fire Police, 86 are Firefighters (71 of these are interior Firefighters). This is the reason for the increase in clothing, training. Bill Sawicki said we should be very grateful that we have these dedicated volunteers willing to give of their time and talent. It would be very expensive to have to pay for firemen.

Item #5– Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

Submitted by:

Monica Dimon
Recording Secretary