

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARING
SCHOOL
FEBRUARY 1, 2014**

Present: Bayard Tracy, Chairman; Steve Buckley, Spofford Fire Precinct Representative; Rich Kalich, Cliff Emery, Frank Underwood, Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Precinct Representative; Marty Mahoney, School Board Representative; Steve Laskowski and Sue Newcomer.

Absent: Dan Cotter, Elaine Levlocke, School Board Representative, Charlie Perry, John Koopmann

Bayard called the meeting to order at 1:04 PM

School: Tim Ruehr, Business Manager; Jamie Card, School Board; Ginienne Hockensmith, School Board; Ege Cordell, School Board Chairman; Sharyn D'Eon, Principal; Wayne Woolrich, Superintendent and Rueben Duncan;

School – Marty reported that the Budget for 2014-2015 is \$8,436,317 up \$628,662 or 8.05%. Tuition is up 12.49% for KHS an increase of \$3,000 plus per student.

The piping to the oil burners needs to be replaced by December 22, 2015. This would cost \$60,000. The testing and maintenance on the oil tanks is increasingly complicated. For \$130,000 the school is proposing to buy, install and convert burners to propane. Tim reported that he can pre-buy propane for \$1.67/gallon for 2 years. There may be a warrant article to offset some of the costs from a Capital Reserve Fund.

Tim Ruehr reported that while there are enough increases in HS Tuitions and OOD expenses to explain the \$600,000 increase there are declining revenues as well. There was a \$192,171 surplus applied to the 2013-2014 budget and declining revenues for adequacy aid. The cost of taxes will increase \$190.62 on \$100,000 house. If all warrant articles pass it will increase an additional \$1.9063 per \$100,000.

Genienne Hockensmith reported on the support staff contract. The contract affects 27 full and part-time staff. The employees will be paying an increasing portion of health care costs. Currently the School pays 85% of HMO plan. The buyout for declining insurance coverage will increase to \$5,000. The amount to be raised by the contract:

Year 1: \$11,770
Year 2: \$22,415
Year 3: \$24,242

The School Board Moderator, Gary Winn, is proposing to have an article on the ballot this year for the school and the Town to allow voting for the school to occur at the same time as the Town.

Bayard reported that there are 2 vacancies on the budget committee.

The meeting recessed at 2:15 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary