

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 20, 2015**

Present: Bayard Tracy, Chairman; Marty Mahoney, School Board Representative; Carol Wheeler, John Koopmann, Dan Cotter, Judy Idelkope, Charlie Perry, Steve Buckley, Spofford Fire Precinct Representative; Rick Cooper, Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Precinct; Charlie Perry, Jon McKeon, Selectboard Representative and Rich Kalich.

Absent: Sue Newcomer, and Steve Laskowski

Chairman Tracy called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Steve Buckley presented a revised Spofford Fire Precinct paperwork. Discussion will be held until later.

School – Sharyn D’Eon, School Principal; Ege Cordell, School Board Chairman; and Janel Swanson, SAU 29 Business Manager.

1100 Regular Instruction is down \$132,984 or 3.5 %. Current enrollment is plus 7 over projected. There are 17 Aides; 12 General Support and 5 one-on-ones. There is an elimination of 1st grade teacher. The class currently has 21 students and an aide. The projected enrollment is 270 for 2015-2016 minus 2 currently enrolled in 2014-2015. Enrollment has decreased 120 students since 2007. High School enrollment has a cost savings of \$109,052. There are 10 less high school students and the tuition rate is down \$26 per pupil. The art position is going to be reduced by 20%.

1200 Special Instruction is down \$146,257 or 7.09%. There is \$73,143 reduction in preschool costs. The Committee asked for a breakdown of special education students currently and projected.

1400 Co-Curricular is up \$9,210 or 23.54%. The Harris Center runs a program for all students 1st through 8th grade. The Harris Center is contributing 40% of the cost.

1430 Extended School Year is up \$1,505 or 16.9%.

2100 Attendance - \$1 level funded

2120 Guidance is up \$165 or .17%

2130 Health is up \$32,801 or 40.415. They are proposing an LPN for 16 hours / week to assist the nurse for a cost of \$16,202.

2140 Psychological is up \$8,016 or 19.03% primarily due to hiring for an open position. Special Needs are re-evaluated every 3 years.

2150 Speech is up \$3,926 or 5.36% increase driven by salary & benefits only

2160 PT/OT is up \$2,539 or 2.84% increase driven by OT salary & benefits. 50% of services are sold.

2210 Staff Support is down \$6,826 or 12.49%

2220 Media is down \$8,544 or 9.79%. The Librarian is retiring. The budget reflects hiring someone with less experience.

2290 Staff Consultations is up \$5,000 or 73.80%.

2310 School Board is level funded at \$33,430

2320 SAU is up \$5,878 or 1.47%

2410 Principals Office is up \$8,507 or 3.43%. Serves 3 people: Principal, Receptionist and an Administrative Assistant.

2600 Building is up \$48,167 or 12.98%. There are some significant projects scheduled: \$22,100 for AC; \$9,450 for outdoor basketball area and \$5,450 for fencing propane tanks. There will be a warrant article for repairing the gymnasium roof. This also includes salaries & benefits for 3 FT custodians and summer help.

2700 Transportation is up \$21,858 or 5.33%. This has increased due to special needs out of district costs that can no longer be shared with other districts.

2800 Staff Services is level funded at \$2,000

2840 Technology is down \$5,512 or 12.45%

Transfers is down \$130,000 or 26.26% due to the completion of propane tanks. The balance remaining in the account is funding for Federal Grants and Food Service.

Overall the budget is down \$282,551 or 3.34%. The Board has asked for additional information regarding special needs enrollment and projections; a 5-year Capital plan; High School enrollment and projections and more information regarding transfers and revenues.

Three Year Teachers Association Contract 2015-2018 with Chesterfield Education Association and Chesterfield Support Staff.

In 2015-2016 the District will need to raise and appropriate \$53,164 for 2015-2016 pay and benefits as a result of the contract. The approximate increased costs for the next two years are \$35,787 for 2016-2017 and \$31,885 for 2017-2018. The impact on taxes is still to be determined.

Clarification was requested on the wording "District protection from the risk of the Health Insurance Excises Tax known as the 'cadillac Tax;".

Spofford Fire Precinct – Overspent 2014 Budget by \$9,000. That is coming from Catastrophic Emergency Fund and Building Maintenance CRF.

Spofford added 3 warrant articles:

\$41,400 for Fire Gear & Pumps, new SCBA's. Chesterfield just received a \$108,000 grant for 20.
\$5,000 to repair the Rescue Truck
\$4,576 for the combined grant with Chesterfield and Westmoreland

Town – John, Judy and Bayard are up for renewal

The next meeting will be next Tuesday for answers to questions from the school. Rick Cooper moved to adjourn at 9:30 PM. The motion was seconded by Dan Cotter and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary