

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2015**

Present: Bayard Tracy, Chairman; Marty Mahoney, School Board Representative; Steve Laskowski, Sue Newcomer, Rich Kalich, Judy Idelkope, Dan Cotter, John Koopmann, Steve Buckley, Spofford Fire Precinct Representative; and Rick Cooper, Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Precinct Representative, Charlie Perry (via Speakerphone).

Absent: Carole Wheeler, Jon McKeon, Selectboard Representative.

Chairman Tracy called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

Per RSA 91A:2 a public body may allow one or more members to participate in a meeting by electronic or other means of communication... A quorum of the public body must be physically present...Charlie Perry is in South Carolina. Cotter moved to allow Charlie Perry to participate by speakerphone. The motion was seconded by Koopmann and passed unanimously.

Koopmann moved to approve January 20th as amended. The motion was seconded by Sue and passed by majority. Cotter abstained.

Elections, Regs & Vital Stats – 2015 budget is \$54,775 up \$1,817 or 3.4%

Financial Administration – 2015 budget is \$68,195 or up \$3,416 or 5.3%

Legal Expense – 2015 budget is \$25,000. No change

Personnel Administration – 2015 budget is \$449,650 down \$9,800 or 2.1%

Planning Board – 2015 budget is \$14,550 up \$550 or 3.9%. Newcomer moved to reduce Planning Board by \$2,000. The motion was seconded by Idelkope. The Planning Board has never spent their budget. Rick stated that the Unreserved Fund Balance is around \$1,000,000. Returned in 2014 for taxes was \$190,000. Kalich moved to limit debate. The motion was seconded by Marty. Idelkope, Cotter and Koopmann voted No. Tracy, Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Buckley, Cooper and Perry voted Yes.

Tracy, Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Buckley, Cooper and Perry voted to reduce the Planning Board budget by \$2,000. Cotter and Koopmann voted No. The motion passed by majority.

Zoning Board – 2015 budget is \$5,450. No change

General Government Buildings – 2015 budget \$35,600 down \$15,300 or 30.1%

Cemeteries – 2015 budget is \$44,067 down \$3,745 or 7.8%

General Insurance 2015 budget is \$40,000 up \$9,000 or 29%.

SWRPC Regional Association – 2015 budget is \$4,000. No change

Economic Development Committee – 2015 budget is \$2,400. No change

Police – 2015 budget is \$478,620 up \$60,344 or 14.4%. Kalich requested that individuals employed by the department should recuse themselves. Tracy stated NH Statutes allow his participation.

Reimbursable Detail – 2015 budget is \$25,000. No change

Ambulance 2015 budget is \$77,100 down \$3,000 or 3.7%

Code Enforcement – 2015 budget is \$32,200 up \$6,200 or 23.8%. Revenue in 2014 was up by \$25,000 because of increases in building permits.

OEM/Emergency Management – 2015 budget is \$6,700 down \$1,350 or 16.8%

RERP/NH – 2015 budget is \$31,580 up \$14,600 or 86%. May not exist in 2016.

Forest Fires – 2015 budget is \$6,000. No change.

Highway – 2015 budget is \$889,385 up \$39,066 or 4.9%

Street Lighting – 2015 budget is \$16,500 down \$5,000 or 23.3%

Solid Waste – 2015 budget is \$223,534 up \$7,058 up 3.3%. Idelkope moved to reduce Solid Waste by \$10,000. The motion was seconded by Laskowski. Koopmann spoke to the hard work that was going on in that department to increase revenues. Laskowski withdrew his second and Idelkope withdrew the motion.

Newcomer moved to reduce Solid Waste by \$7,500 to \$216,034. The motion was seconded by Laskowski. Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley and Cooper voted No. Tracy, Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope and Perry voted Yes. Motion passed by majority.

Health Officer – 2015 budget is \$1,625 down \$125 or 7.1%

Animal Control – 2015 budget is \$1,650. No change

Other Health – 2015 budget is \$300. No change

General Assistance – 2015 budget is \$25,000 down \$5,000 or 16.7%

Parks & Rec – 2015 budget is \$114,328 up \$14,743 or 14.8%. Erik Barnes, the Chairman of the Commission, stated at the Public Hearing that expenses would be \$110,000. Tracy moved to reduce Parks & Rec by \$4,328 to \$110,000. The motion was seconded by Kalich. Mahoney, Koopmann, Cooper and Perry voted No. Tracy, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, and Buckley voted Yes. Motion passed by majority.

Library – 2015 budget is \$140,849 up \$7,047 or 5.3%

Patriotic Purposes – 2015 budget is \$300 down \$200 or 40%

Conservation Commission – 2015 budget is \$3,250 down \$300 or 8.5%

Debt Service – 2015 budget is \$179,400 down \$4,700 or 2.6%. The Town Office debt is unable to be refinanced for 10 to 15 years.

Laskowski moved to recommend \$3,074,375 for the 2015 Total Operating Budget. The motion was seconded by Newcomer. Cotter, Koopmann and Cooper voted No. Tracy, Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Buckley and Perry voted Yes. Motion passed by majority.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$247,756 for the purpose of resurfacing Town roads, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). Newcomer moved to recommend Article 5. The motion was seconded by Cotter. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$85,000 to be added to the already established Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Koopmann moved to reduce Article 6 by \$19,000. The motion was seconded by Perry. Newcomer moved to reduce Article 6 by \$10,000. The motion was seconded by Cotter. Koopmann and Perry voted No. Tracy, Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter Buckley and Cooper voted Yes. Amendment passed by majority.

Article 6 recommends \$75,000 to the Highway Heavy Equipment CRF. Tracy, Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, and Perry voted Yes. Motion passed Unanimously.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$120,000 to purchase a new Backhoe for the Highway Department and authorize the withdrawal of up to \$120,000 from the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, said amount to be offset by the amount received from the trade-in or sale of the existing backhoe, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). Laskowski moved to recommend Article 7. The motion was seconded by Cotter. Koopmann and Perry voted No. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Buckley, Cooper and Tracy voted Yes. Article is recommended by Majority.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the already established Roadways Construction/Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Laskowski moved to recommend Article 8. The motion was seconded by Cotter. No funds were voted in last year. The balance in the account is \$163,000. Koopmann voted No. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Buckley, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted Yes. Article is recommended by majority.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$17,000 to replace a Chandler Road Culvert and authorize the withdrawal of up to \$17,000 from the Roadways Construction/Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). Newcomer moved to recommend Article 9. The motion was seconded by Cooper. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted Yes. Article 9 is recommended unanimously.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 to be added to the already established Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Cotter moved to recommend Article 10. The motion was seconded by Idelkope. The last full revaluation was in 2013. Perry voted No. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper and Tracy voted Yes. Motion passed by majority.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the already established Town Hall Annex Renovations Capital Reserve Fund or act in any way related thereto. Cotter moved to recommend Article 11. The motion was seconded by Laskowski. There is \$75,000 already in the fund. The Committee was reluctant to commit more funding until a plan is completed. Mahoney, Newcomer, Cotter, Buckley and Cooper voted Yes. Laskowski, Kalich, Idelkope, Koopmann, Perry and Tracy voted No. Article 11 is not recommended.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 for Town Hall Annex Architectural and Engineering Review and authorize the withdrawal of up to \$5,000 from the Town Hall Annex Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). Newcomer moved to recommend Article 12. The motion was seconded by Cooper. Kalich and Perry voted No. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, and Tracy voted Yes. Article 12 is recommended by majority.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the already established Town Office Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund or act in any way related thereto. Cotter moved to recommend Article 13. The motion was seconded by Newcomer. There was a discussion about having a different fund for each Town Office Building. Laskowski, Koopmann and Perry voted No. Mahoney, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Buckley, Cooper and Tracy voted Yes. Article 13 is recommended by Majority.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,000 to repair and paint the Town Hall Cupola, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). Newcomer moved to recommend Article 14. The motion was seconded by Idelkope. Newcomer, Idelkope, Cotter, Buckley and Cooper voted Yes. Mahoney, Laskowski, Kalich, Koopmann, Perry and Tracy voted No. Article 14 is not recommended.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to make available the town's Assessing Data online, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). Laskowski moved to recommend Article 15. The motion was seconded by Cotter. This would make assessing information for individual properties available to anyone with access to the internet. Idelkope voted Yes. Mahoney, Laskowski, Kalich, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted No. Newcomer abstained. Article 15 is not recommended.

ARTICLE 16: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum \$23,000 to be added to the already established Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Newcomer moved to recommend Article 16. The motion was seconded by Cotter. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted Yes. Article is recommended unanimously.

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,000 to be added to the already established Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Cotter moved to recommend Article 17. The motion was seconded by Newcomer. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted Yes. Article is recommended unanimously.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$42,000 for the purchase of a Police Department SUV (Sport Utility Vehicle) and set up costs, and authorize the withdrawal of up to \$42,000 from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). Cooper moved to recommend Article 18. The motion was seconded by Cotter. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted Yes. Article is recommended unanimously.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 for the replacement of duty weapons and holsters for the police department and authorize the withdrawal of up to \$4,000 from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). Cotter moved to recommend Article 19. The motion was seconded by Cooper. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted Yes. Article is recommended unanimously.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,500 for computer upgrades at the Police Department and authorize the withdrawal of up to \$3,500 from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). Cotter moved to recommend Article 20. The motion was seconded by Newcomer. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted Yes. Article is recommended unanimously.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$51,000 for Alteration and Replacement of the Library Parking Lot, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). Cotter moved to recommend Article 21. The motion was seconded by Cooper. There was a discussion about having a Fund for this article. Newcomer, Idelkope, Cotter and Buckley voted Yes. Mahoney, Laskowski, Koopmann, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted No. Kalich abstained. Article 21 is not recommended.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the town will vote to establish a Chesterfield Library Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19-a, for the maintenance and upkeep of Chesterfield Library and to raise and appropriate \$17,895 to put in the fund, with this amount to come from the unreserved fund balance; and further to name the Library Board of Trustees as agents to expend from the fund. Cooper moved to recommend Article 22. The motion was seconded by Tracy. The Committee felt that the Board of Selectmen should be responsible for repairs and upkeep to Town owned buildings. The State does not acknowledge a difference between Capital Reserve Funds and Expendable Trusts. The Town uses CRF's for district meetings and Expendable Trusts for individual committees and boards. Legal Counsel advised this fund should be controlled by Trustees. Mahoney, Newcomer, Kalich and Buckley voted Yes. Laskowski, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted No. Article 22 is not recommended.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to the already established Chesterfield Library Building Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This warrant article is contingent on the passage of Article 22. Cotter moved to recommend Article 23. The motion was seconded by Mahoney. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted No. Article 23 is not recommended

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Library Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund created in 1981. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be

transferred to the town's general fund. Cotter moved to recommend Article 24. The motion was seconded by Cooper. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted No. Article fails unanimously. The Budget Committee moved to not recommend this article in order for the representative to speak about the Committee position at Town Meeting.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to be added to the already established Parks and Rec Building Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Newcomer moved to recommend article 25. The motion was seconded by Cotter. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted Yes. Article passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 to be added to the already established Outdoor Court Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Newcomer moved to recommend article 26. The motion was seconded by Cooper. The balance in the account is \$6,000. Newcomer, Idelkope and Tracy voted Yes. Mahoney, Laskowski, Kalich, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper and Perry voted No. Article 26 is not recommended by majority.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to be added to the already established Parks and Rec Pickup Truck Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Cotter moved to recommend Article 27. The motion was seconded by Cooper. Koopmann and Perry voted No. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Buckley, Cooper, and Tracy voted Yes. Article 27 passed by majority.

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 to the already established Parks and Rec 4x4 All Terrain Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Cotter moved to recommend Article 28. The motion was seconded by Idelkope. Laskowski, Koopmann and Perry voted No. Mahoney, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Buckley, Cooper, and Tracy voted Yes. Article 28 is recommended by majority.

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to the already established Wildland Fire Suppression Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Laskowski moved to recommend Article 29. The motion was seconded by Cotter. There is \$22,000 in the Fund. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, Perry and Tracy voted Yes. Article is recommended unanimously.

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to be added to the already established Cemetery Truck Replacement Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Cotter moved to recommend Article 30. The motion was seconded by Newcomer. Perry voted No. Mahoney, Laskowski, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper, and Tracy voted Yes. Article is recommended by majority.

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to be added to the already established Cemetery Mower Replacement Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Laskowski moved to Recommend Article 31. The motion was seconded by Cooper. Laskowski, Idelkope, Koopmann, and Perry voted No. Mahoney, Newcomer, Kalich, Cotter, Buckley, Cooper and Tracy voted Yes. Article is recommended by majority.

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty Three Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety Nine Dollars (\$23,999) to support the following, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d).

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| Chesterfield Senior Meals program | 200 |
| Home Health, Meals on Wheels and Age in Motion | 8,949 |
| Monadnock Family Services/Mental Health | 4,505 |
| Community Kitchen | 5,000 |
| Youth Services | 140 |
| Southwestern Community Services | 1,605 |
| Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice | 500 |
| Drop In Center | 200 |
| Monadnock Child Advocacy Center | 1,000 |
| Big Brothers Big Sisters | 400 |
| The Gathering Place | 1,000 |
| Court Appointed Special Advocates for Children | 500 |
| TOTAL | 23,999 |

Cotter moved to recommend article 32. The motion was seconded by Mahoney. These non-profit agencies prove that they serve residents of Town. Laskowski voted No in memory of Warren Porter. Perry also voted No. Mahoney, Newcomer, Kalich, Idelkope, Cotter, Koopmann, Buckley, Cooper and Bayard voted Yes. Article is recommended by majority.

Tracy moved to hear the Fire Precincts tomorrow. The motion was seconded by Newcomer and passed unanimously.

The Committee scheduled another meeting for Wednesday February 18th at 7 PM to sign DRA documents for the districts and approve minutes.

The meeting adjourned at 10:13 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary