

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 26, 2016**

Present: Bayard Tracy, Chairman; Marty Mahoney, School Board Representative; Steve Laskowski, Carole Wheeler, Dan Cotter, Selectboard Representative; Gary Winn, Steve Buckley, Spofford Fire Precinct Representative; Norm VanCor, Rick Cooper, Chesterfield Fire Precinct Representative.

Absent: Sue Newcomer, Charlie Perry and Rich Kalich

Library – James Stoff, Dave Smith, Jane Anderson, Librarian and Ken Walton. The Library Trustees presented their budget to the Committee. The trustees would like the library employees to be considered for longevity pay implemented by the Town a couple of years ago. This is an increase of about \$6,000 over the Selectboard. The Public Hearing will be February 6th and deliberations will be February 10th and 11th.

Winn moved January 19th as amended. The motion was seconded by Cotter and passed unanimously. Amy will bring the minutes back to the next meeting for final review of revisions.

School – Sharyn D'Eon, Ege Cordell and Janel Swanson were present to review the answers to the questions from last weeks meeting. Staff to Student ratios for the last 6 years; this includes all staff even those that do not directly affect education. The cost of running the K-8 \$4,752,416.56 and per student \$17,348.38. This is the number given out to students that want to tuition in to the school.

Janel presented the revised Revenue page from the public hearing document. The budget is down \$121,839 but due to decreased revenue property taxes will increase \$32,306 or .48% up \$6.70 on a \$100,000 house. This does not include the increase if all the warrant article pass. The School Board has not had a chance to meet to discuss the budget committee comments so the funding source of the articles remains unreserved fund balances. The Committee is planning to meet prior to the Public Hearing on the 6th.

Spofford Fire Precinct – Buckley reported that the Budget for Small Equipment has increased by \$1,000 due to receipt of grant. This represents the 5% match from the Fire Department. The budget is up from \$281,375 in 2015 to \$284,722 proposed 2016. This is 1.2%. Revenue received from taxes is expected to decrease from \$281,232 to \$275,913. Warrant Articles include contributions to Heavy Equipment CRF, Small Equipment CRF, Spofford Water Hole Ex Trust, Catastrophic Emergency Ex Trust and Building Maintenance Ex Trust. The District is proposing \$2,250 withdrawal from Small Equipment CRF to purchase protective gear. There are 4 grants: A joint grant with Chesterfield and Westmoreland that Chesterfield is hosting with a \$4,576 contribution from Spofford; A Grant to purchase a Compressor/Fill Station for \$65,000; a Grant for \$498,000 to purchase a Mini-Pumper/Quick Attack Vehicle; and a Grant hosted by Spofford jointly with Chesterfield and Westmoreland to purchase Hose for \$162,695. The Committee pointed out that there needs to be a line in the Budget Revenue reflecting revenue from Grants.

The School public hearing will start on Saturday, February 6th at 1 PM; followed by the Town and Fire Precincts at 3 PM.

Cooper moved to adjourn at 8:46 PM. The motion was seconded by Cotter and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary