

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 10, 2016**

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

Absent: Sue Newcomer and Charlie Perry

Chairman Tracy called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM

Cooper moved to approve January 19th minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Winn. These minutes were approved at the January 26th minutes. Marty reviewed the changes. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Cotter moved January 26th minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Winn and passed unanimously.

Mahoney moved February 6th School Public Hearing minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Cooper and passed unanimously.

Kalich moved to recommend Article 2 in the amount of \$8,251,861 for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for the school district officials and agents, and for the payment for the statutory obligations of the district. The School Board also recommends \$8,251,861. The motion was seconded by Winn.

The Budget is down \$121,839 or 1.46%. Mahoney discussed the fact that a motion can be made on the floor to increase the budget to replace any or all of the aides salary.

Mahoney, Laskowski, Wheeler, Kalich, Buckley, Winn, Koopmann, VanCor, Cooper, Cotter and Tracy voted Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Laskowski moved to recommend Article 3: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$65,000 for an energy controls project at the Chesterfield School, and further to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$65,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund established by voters on March 5, 1994 for such a purpose, or to take any other action in relation thereto, with the anticipation of receiving \$22,750 in energy rebates. The motion was seconded by Winn.

Mahoney, Laskowski, Wheeler, Kalich, Buckley, Winn, Koopmann, VanCor, Cooper, Cotter and Tracy voted Yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Winn moved to recommend Article 4: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate, and authorize the School Board to transfer up to \$50,000 of its unassigned fund balance, if any remain on hand at the end of fiscal year, June 30, 2016 to be deposited in the Capital Reserve Fund established by voters on March 5, 1994, for the purpose of major renovation/reconstruction of the school buildings

and related costs, or to take any other action in relation thereto. The motion was seconded by Mahoney.

The Committee discussed wanting the article to be raised and appropriated instead of funded by unreserved fund balance. If it is raised and appropriated it would raise taxes the following year. Tracy stated that he felt this was due to a lack of strong capital expenditure budgeting.

Mahoney, Laskowski, Wheeler, Kalich, Buckley, Winn, Koopmann, VanCor, Cooper and Tracy voted Yes. Cotter voted No. The motion passed by majority.

Winn moved to recommend Article 5: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate, and authorize the School Board to transfer up to \$10,000 of its unassigned fund balance, if any remain on hand at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2016, to be deposited in the Special Education/High School Tuition Fund, established by voters on March 7, 1992, or to take any action in relation thereto. The motion was seconded by Laskowski.

The balance in the expendable trust is \$162,313. It has not been used in 14 years. If it is made a capital expenditure the article would still be funded if there is no fund balance remaining at the end of the year.

Mahoney, Laskowski, Wheeler, Kalich, Buckley, Winn, Koopmann, VanCor, Cooper and Tracy voted Yes. Cotter voted No. The motion passed by majority.

The tax rate will increase by \$18.92 for the School. Mahoney will double check the calculation. There is concern that the \$60,000 has been removed from the fund balance prior to calculating the tax rate.

Cooper moved to adjourn at 8:10 PM. The motion was seconded by Laskowski and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary