

Budget Committee Meeting Minutes of December 11, 2012

Members Present: David Graham, Terry Rhoderick, Jeff Schall, Lisa Kardell, Bob Demers, Glen Eastman
Michael Waddell, Reuben Rajala

Other: Robin Frost, Denise Vallee, Chad Miller, PJ Cyr, Jennifer Lemoine, Shawn Costine, Michelle Lutz

Call to order by Jeff Schall at 6:32 pm

Approve Minutes of October 17, 2012 –a motion was made by Glen Eastman to accept the minutes as written; second by Bob Demers. All were in favor. Mike Waddell and Reuben Rajala abstained from the vote.

Committee Appointments: Two letters of interest were received, one from Terry Oliver for a committee member and one from Debra Ackerman for both a committee member and clerk.

Glen stated that he has a problem with having an even number of board members. He suggested that only Terry Oliver be appointed as a committee member. Michael Waddell made a motion to hire Debra Ackerman as the clerk and to appoint Terry Oliver as a committee member, Bob Demers seconded and all were in favor. Jeff Schall asked Robin to please let them know.

2013 Budget Review: Jeff Schall let the committee know that the present budget reports are not the final budget, that it is still a work in progress. The Board of Selectmen is still discussing the budget and has not given their final approval.

Police Budget: Denise Vallee explained that a change needed to be made in the Full Time, Overtime and Medicare lines. The new amount for each line is as follows: \$336,264 for Full Time, \$21,078 for Overtime and \$5,707 for Medicare for a total of the police budget of \$447,330, or an increase of \$6,770 over the 2012 budget. Chief Cyr reviewed the police budget and gave an explanation of the Part-time line overage for 2012, which was caused by being short-handed by two officers. There are currently 3 auxiliary members to include Jerry Marcou (not currently active), Brian Lamarre and Toby Reichert.

Terry Rhoderick questioned whether the special duty hourly rate was sufficient. PJ Cyr said that he will take a look at adjusting the rate so the Town makes more. He will also check with other communities to see what they are currently charging.

Bob Demers asked whether the vehicle repair line included labor. He feels that every department should be charged for labor and materials, instead of it being included in the Highway Department budget. A rate needs to be established and a more accurate work log needs to be kept.

Bob Demers then asked about the status of the Police contract with Shelburne. He feels that \$14,000 is not enough for Shelburne to pay, since their population is 11% of what Gorham's is. Gorham should not be a donor town and Shelburne should pay a fair percentage of \$70,000. PJ said they usually respond to 150 calls per year. PJ then informed the committee that we had met with Berlin, provided them with an RFP and met with them again. PJ followed up with Berlin Dispatch a month ago and still has not received a quote yet. He also said that during an emergency he would not be comfortable having dispatch being conducted from another site. Currently the Dispatcher is located right next to the Emergency Operation Center.

Dispatch Budget: PJ Cyr then review the dispatch budget. The Dispatch Budget has increased \$6,280 over the 2012 budget. The proposed 2013 budget is \$169,960.

EMS Department Budget: Chad Miller informed the committee that the department had responded to 600 calls year to date. There are currently 3 EMT's in full-time positions and 20 volunteers. The EMS Department currently has about \$300,000 in equipment. Three of four paramedics are cross trained as firefighters. 15 of the 20 volunteers are cross-trained as firefighters and of those, five are women. 75-80% of those billed are paying.

Chad Miller then reviewed the expenditures. He stated that over the 4th of July celebration, 3 to 5 patients were treated and of those, one life was saved. The \$2,200 for this comes out of the EMS Budget.

In 2012 year to date, there is \$275,000 in revenue and \$285,000 in expenditures.

Fire Department Budget: Since the time was approaching 9:00 pm, Chairman Schall decided to postpone the presentation of the Fire Department budget until the next meeting on the 18th, when Chief Eichler is back from vacation.

Adjournment: Motion made by Bob Demers, seconded by Glen Eastman; all were in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm.