

Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Budget Committee Meeting

Meeting Called By:	Budget Committee	Date, Time:	01/20/14 at 19:00
Transcribed By:	Kathy Tobine	Place:	Northfield Town Hall, Upstairs Meeting Room, 21 Summer Street, Northfield

Donnie Stevens called the meeting to order at 19:00.

Present: Budget Committee Members Don Stevens, George Flanders, Timothy Sattler, Peter Fogg, David Tracy; Commissioner Paul Auger, Interim Chief Michael Robinson and Interim Deputy Chief Timothy Joubert.

Absent: Jane Alden

Budget Hearing

Donnie Stevens stated the budget hearing will be held February 10, 2014, at 7:00 PM at Northfield Town Hall in the downstairs meeting room. The Commissioners will be holding their hearing on the warrant articles immediately following.

Minutes

Tim Sattler made a motion to approve the minutes of January 6, 2014, as printed. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. Discussion: Donnie commented that on Account #560 there was no motion or second before they voted on it. They will need to revisit that tonight. There being no further discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Budget Narrative

Commissioner Auger stated that the narrative was incorrect as it includes a fourth firefighter on page 2. Chief Robinson stated that was the Chief's original budget and narrative. It has not been updated to reflect the changes.

Budget

Chief Robinson explained that Account 390 Other Professional Services has not been used in the last three years and covers items such as the Wage & Benefit Study conducted in 2009. They would like to keep this line funded at \$1.

Commissioner Auger handed out a copy of some of the things the Board of Commissioners have done this year to help hold the budget.

Donnie Stevens reported that he had asked Kathy about the Workers Comp being for 18 months. Chief Robinson reported that we have always paid calendar year but this year they are changing to a fiscal year so this year we must pay for six months from January to June and then 12 months from July 2014 to June 2015. Discussion ensued.

Salaries & Wages

Account 110 Career Salaries & Wages: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$665,234. Dave Tracy made seconded the motion. Discussion: Interim Chief Robinson explained that this includes a 2.5% step increase. As part of the negotiations for the new health insurance the increase will become effective the first week in April rather than retroactive to January 1st. There being no further discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 110.05 Holiday Pay: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$27,225. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about why the holiday pay was more in 2013 than was budgeted. It was decided this line will be held until the next meeting.

Account 110.06 Overtime: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$110,000. Dave Tracey seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about why the overtime is being funded the same as last

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year. Discussion ensued about the overage in the overtime line in 2013. There being no further discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 120 Call Salaries & Wages: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$65,000. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 130 Elected Officials: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$8,600. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about the increase in this line. The Commissioners increased from \$900 to \$1,500 and the Treasurer increased from \$2,000 to \$2,500. There being no further discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Benefits

Account 210 Group Health Insurance: Dave Tracey made a motion to fund this line at \$203,974. Tim Sattler seconded the motion. Commissioner Auger explained that part of the increase was due to a change in the demographics of the Department. The Commissioners changed insurance plans and increased the employee's contribution from 10% to 11% to help offset the increase. Chief Robinson explained the firefighters opted for a lesser plan to help keep costs down. The Commissioners negotiated with the firefighters in good faith and were able to get them to give up the retro pay. The increase in the contribution was decided after and was not well received by the firefighters. He does not recommend this. His feeling is the \$2,167 will cause more pain that it is worth. Discussion ensued about the health insurance deductible reimbursement. Discussion ensued about the return of surplus from LGC. Commissioner Clark recommended they add the \$6,550.60 back in. It was decided this line would be held until the next meeting.

Account 215 Group Life Insurance: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$10,073. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about the long term disability cost share. Discussion ensued about what the Group Line of Duty Insurance, Accident Health Policy and Death Benefit through the NH Retirement System cover. There being no further discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 220 Social Security: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$7,200. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 225 Medicare: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$13,000. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 230 Retirement: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$215,860. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 250 Unemployment Compensation: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$500. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 260 Workers Compensation: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$56,600. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. Discussion ensued on this policy going from a calendar year to a fiscal year on these policies. Discussion ensued on the rate increase. There being no further discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Purchased Services

Account 560 Dues & Subscriptions: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$1,700. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 590.2 Pressurized Hydrants: Dave Tracy made a motion to fund this line at \$125,988. Tim Sattler seconded the motion. Commissioner Auger passed out information provided by the Water Department on the hydrants and the number we are being charged for. Peter Fogg asked where the fee originated from. He cannot find a PUC order for \$1,800 per hydrant. Discussion ensued about the hydrant fee. Discussion ensued about hydrant shoveling. There being no further discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Discussion ensued on why the pressurized hydrants are not a separate warrant article.

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Supplies

Account 620 Office: Dave Tracy made a motion to fund this line at \$2,500. Tim Sattler seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 625 Postage: Dave Tracy made a motion fund this line at \$650. Tim Sattler seconded the motion. Discussion ensued on why this line is funded for less than what was spent in 2013. There being no further discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 630 Equipment Maintenance & Repair: Dave Tracy made a motion to fund this line at \$6,000. Tim Sattler seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about what this line covers. There being no further discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 631 Service Testing: Dave Tracy made a motion to fund this line at \$8,200. Tim Sattler seconded the motion. Discussion ensued on why the Chief's line was higher than the Commissioners. There being no further discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 635 Gasoline: Dave Tracy made a motion to fund this line at \$6,800. Tim Sattler seconded the motion. Discussion ensued on which vehicles are gas. Discussion ensued on why the 2013 actual was down. There being no further discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 636 Diesel Fuel: Dave Tracy made a motion to fund this line at \$17,000. Tim Sattler seconded the motion. Discussion ensued on whether this line was funded properly. Discussion ensued on the options available should the tanks be closed. There being no further discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 660 Vehicle Repair Parts: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$16,500. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 670 Books & Periodicals: Dave Tracy made a motion to fund this line at \$250. Tim Sattler seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 680 Departmental Awards: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$200. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 681 Municipal Fire Alarm System: Donnie Stevens commented we are looking for this line to go away. They are not funding it this year.

Account 683 Fire Prevention: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$1,500. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 685 Uniforms: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$7,000. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about this line. Deputy Joubert explained that a Class A uniform was included in this line. It was purchased out of the 2013 budget. Dave Tracy made a motion to reduce this line item to \$6,000. Tim Sattler seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 690 Miscellaneous: Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$100. Dave Tracy seconded the motion. Discussion ensued on what this line covers and how it was overspent. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Dave Tracy made a motion adjourn. Tim Sattler seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion to adjourn passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Tobine