

## Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Budget Committee Meeting

Meeting Called By:	Budget Committee	Date, Time:	12/07/15 at 19:00
Transcribed By:	Kathy Tobine	Place:	Tilton Town Hall, Downstairs Meeting Room, 257 Main Street, Tilton

Donnie Stevens called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Present: Budget Committee Members Don Stevens, George Flanders, Timothy Sattler, Peter Fogg, Paul Blaisdell; Commissioner Patrick Clark, Chief Michael W. Sitar, Jr.

### Minutes

#### November 23, 2015

Discussion ensued on several items in the minutes. Paul Blaisdell questioned the agreement with the Water District. Chief Sitar explained that it is a new five year agreement. Commissioner Clark stated that the agreement is in writing signed by both parties. Commissioner Clark commented on the warrant article for the fourth shift. He was advised by DRA and legal counsel at the Municipal Association that it is the Board's duty to set policy and it is not recommended to relinquish that. The Board will be discussing that at their meeting on Wednesday.

Tim Sattler made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. George Flanders seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

### Budget

#### **Salaries & Wages**

##### Account 110 Career Salaries & Wages

Pat Clark made a motion to fund this line at \$713,945. Peter Fogg seconded the motion.

Chief Sitar explained the Commissioners budget includes a 2½% step increase. Discussion ensued about the Chief's proposed budget which includes a fourth shift, overtime and the retirement system. Discussion ensued about mean salary. Paul Blaisdell asked how much less our firefighters are making compared to the surrounding area departments. Chief Sitar commented it is a \$3,000 difference. Discussion ensued about the step and grade system. The paramedics were discussed.

Tim Sattler asked if we are going to go over the appropriated amount. Chief Sitar commented that the salary time will be right there. Career overtime, call salaries and vehicle maintenance will go over.

There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

##### Account 110.5 Holiday Pay

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$29,040. Tim Sattler seconded the motion. Donnie commented that this line should be 2½% more than last year. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

##### Account 110.6 Overtime

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$125,000. George Flanders seconded the motion.

Donnie asked the number of incidents this year compared to previous years. Chief Sitar replied we are up 100+ calls over last year. Paul Blaisdell asked what an incident is. Chief Sitar explained an incident is a call for a fire, a hazardous condition, an emergency medical call, a rescue, motor vehicle accident. A call for service is someone says there is a funny smell outside. Discussion ensued. The Committee requested Chief Sitar provide them with a breakdown of the incidents.

Donnie asked the Chief why the overtime increase in his budget was so much. Chief Sitar explained that was including the fourth shift. Donnie asked what the Chief's overtime figure is for staying with the

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current three shifts. Chief Sitar commented that figure is \$142,953.50. He explained the overtime liability is actually higher and how it is figured. We have an overtime liability of 6,608 hours should everyone take every floating holiday, sick day, vacation day, personal day and includes training hours. The three year average is 4,687 hours. To fund the full liability of 6,608 hours it would cost \$201,544 whereas the three year average is \$142,953.50. Discussion ensued. Paul Blaisdell requested Chief Sitar provide them with the mandatory training requirement for the career firefighters per year.

Pat Clark made a motion to fund this line at \$135,000. Motion failed for lack of a second.

There being no further discussion, vote was taken to fund this line at \$125,000. Motion failed.

Account 120 Call Salaries & Wages

Tim Sattler made a motion to fund this line at \$110,000. Pat Clark seconded the motion. Pat commented that the number of call firefighters showing up has increased dramatically. They had to cut back on their response in July due to budget constraints. This is really affecting the actual. Making use of call firefighters is one of the most frequently requested items. Call firefighter responsibilities and response were discussed.

There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed.

Account 130 Elected Officials

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line as Commissioners at \$4,500, Clerk at \$1,500, Treasurer at \$1,500 and Moderator at \$500 for a grand total of \$8,000. George Flanders seconded the motion. Donnie asked if they didn't get a raise last year. Chief Sitar commented the Moderator went from \$100 to \$250. This year the Commissioners proposed \$500 for the Moderator. At the same time, they felt that anyone who is an elected official should receive the same rate of pay so they reduced the Treasurer's salary by \$1,000. Discussion ensued.

Peter Fogg amended his motion to reduce the Moderator's salary to \$250 bringing the line down to \$7,750. Tim Sattler seconded the amendment.

There being no further discussion, vote was taken on the amendment. Motion passed.

Meeting Dates

The next meeting is scheduled for December 21<sup>st</sup>. After much discussion, it was decided the Committee will also meet on December 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Adjournment

Tim Sattler made a motion adjourn. Peter Fogg seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Tobine