

Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Budget Committee Meeting

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| Meeting Called By: | Budget Committee | Date, Time: | 12/21/15 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 7:12 PM.

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

Minutes

December 7, 2015

Patrick Clark made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Peter Fogg seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about the Overtime. Peter Fogg requested how everyone voted be recorded. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed; 6 for, 1 abstained.

Operating Budget

Salaries & Wages

Account 110.6 Overtime

Jane Alden made a motion to fund this line at \$135,000. Patrick Clark seconded the motion.

Peter Fogg requested the date the actuals are through. Chief Sitar responded they are through the end of November.

Paul Blaisdell asked if everyone got a copy of the incident breakdown. Everyone acknowledged they had received a copy.

Extensive discussion ensued about overtime. The Call Company covering overtime was discussed. Training was reviewed.

Jane Alden called the question. Peter Fogg seconded it. Vote was taken on motion to fund this line at \$135,000. Patrick Clark for; George Flanders, Timothy Sattler, Peter Fogg, Paul Blaisdell, Jane Alden against; Don Stevens abstained. Motion failed.

Paul Blaisdell made a motion to fund this line at \$125,000. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Paul Blaisdell explained that this number is very close to the actuals for this year. His hope is that they implement reductions next year similar to this year to limit it to \$125,000. Patrick Clark explained that a lot of the overtime is given, i.e. vacations. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed; 5 for, 1 against, 1 abstained.

Benefits

Account 210 Group Health Insurance

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$229,494. Tim Sattler seconded the motion. Discussion ensued on what this covered and increase from last year. Chief Sitar explained the opt out. Don Stevens questioned if the amount will cover all employees should they all decide they want the coverage. Chief Sitar commented it does not. Discussion ensued about the percentage paid by the

District versus the Towns. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Account 210.1 Insurance Opt Out

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$7,000. Jane Alden seconded the motion. There being no discussion vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Account 215.01 Short Term Disability

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$2,374. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Tim Sattler questioned why this is less than last year. Chief Sitar explained this is from the insurance company. Everything in this category is a firm quote. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Account 215.02 Group Line of Duty

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$4,143. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Paul Blaisdell asked what this insurance covers. Peter Fogg commented it is a type of group life insurance. It was decided to table this until they find out what this line is for.

Account 215.03 NH State Firemen's Insurance

Chief Sitar explained this line is for the Call Firefighters. This an additional policy for them. It is \$20 per year. It is like an Aflac. Paul Blaisdell made a motion to fund this line at \$880. Jane Alden seconded the motion. There being further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Account 215.05 Long Term Disability

Jane Alden made a motion to fund this line at \$2,233. Peter Fogg seconded the motion. Paul Blaisdell asked why the Chief's budget and the Commissioners were different. Chief Sitar explained he used actuals. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Account 220 Social Security

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$9,946. Tim Sattler seconded the motion. Tim Sattler asked why the Chief's figures were so much higher. Chief Sitar explained that the figures are salary based and his salary request was higher than the Commissioners. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Account 225 Medicare

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$14,442. Jane Alden seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Account 230 Retirement

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$248,389. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Don Stevens wanted to know if this is what the 2½% raise reflects. Commissioner Clark explained that Group II percentage rate went up in July of last year. That is part of the increase. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Account 250 Unemployment Compensation

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$500. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Chief Sitar explained we are self-funded. We need to put an amount in to fund it. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Account 260 Workers Compensation

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$33,781. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Discussion ensued on how this amount was arrived at. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Professional & Technical Services

Account 301 Auditing

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$8,925. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Peter asked if this was based on an estimate. Commissioner Clark explained it is. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Account 320 Legal Services

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$6,000. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Discussion ensued on the differences in funding. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed; 6 for, 1 against.

Account 335 Training

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$10,000. Motion failed for lack of a second. Discussion ensued on why this line was underspent this year. Chief Sitar explained that this is one of the lines he limited to save money and stay within the budget. Discussion ensued on the cost of various classes.

Jane Alden made a motion to fund this line at \$12,500. Patrick Clark seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Account 340 Bank Charge/Interest

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$100. George Flanders seconded the motion. Commissioner Clark explained that this is for the interest should we need a TAN. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed; 6 for, 2 against.

Account 341.1 Office Telephone

Patrick Clark made a motion to fund this line at \$2,400. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Chief Sitar explained the actuals are for 11 months. There will be one more bill. Discussion ensued on the various lines and locations. There being no more discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed; 6 for, 1 abstain.

Account 341.2 Cell Phones

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$2,500. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Tim Sattler asked for an explanation of the numbers. Chief Sitar explained this covers the cell phones for the full time duty officer, his cell phone, engine 3, each ambulance and also covers the cell phone service for the iPads. He explained he requested the increase as he is requesting an iPad for one of the engines. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Account 341.3 MiFi

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$971. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Chief Sitar explained this is for the hot spots for the ambulances. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Account 341.5 Internet

Patrick Clark made a motion to fund this line at \$600. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Commissioner Clark explained that this covers a higher speed internet. Discussion ensued on the need for a higher speed internet service. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Account 342 Information Technology

Chief Sitar explained they can take the group as one line item since all these are fixed prices except for two PCs that need to be replaced this year and one new iPad. Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$20,272. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Discussion ensued on this line being overspent in 2015. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

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Account 350 Medical Services

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$8,625. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Discussion ensued on who has physicals. Chief Sitar explained that all career and call members have an annual physical to make sure they can meet the demands of firefighting. It is a specific test designed for firefighters. Paul Blaisdell asked why new employees and other expenses is higher than last year. Chief Sitar explained this is to cover the cost of hiring new firefighters. Discussion ensued on the Call Firefighters. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed; 6 for, 1 against.

Recess

Donnie Stevens recessed the meeting. The meeting will reconvene December 22, 2015 at 7:00 PM at Tilton Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Tobine