

Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Budget Committee Meeting

Meeting Called By:	Commissioners	Date, Time:	01/23/2017 at 5:30 PM
Transcribed By:	Kathy Tobine	Place:	Tilton Town Hall, Upstairs Meeting Room, 257 Main Street, Tilton

Tim Sattler called the meeting of the Budget Committee to order at 5:35 PM.

Present: Jane Alden, Trish Sawicki, Bob Petrin, Peter Fogg, George Flanders, Tim Sattler, Commissioner Paul Auger and Chief Mike Sitar.

Public Present: Commissioner Paul Blaisdell

Budget

Chief Sitar presented the Committee with updated copies of the budget and draft warrant articles. Chief Sitar commented that anything highlighted needs to be acted upon. There are also a couple items he would like reconsidered.

Commissioner Auger commented the budget draft figures have been returned to the original figures. The Chief's budget now reflects his original request.

Discussion ensued on what was covered at the last Committee meeting.

211 Health Insurance Deductible Reimbursement

Chief Sitar explained this is a warrant article. A \$1,000 needs to be added to bring this account back to \$5,500. Discussion ensued.

Article 09: *To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for the purpose of adding to the existing health insurance deductible expendable trust fund with said funds to be withdrawn from the Unreserved Fund Balance. This article is recommended by the Board of Commissioners and Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)*

There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed: 5 aye; 2 nay.

Jane Alden commented that this is her third time on the Budget Committee and this is the first time there has been this much discussion on it. Now all of a sudden it's an issue. The first time she was on the Budget Committee she questioned it. It was explained in detail.

Apparatus & Equipment Replacement Fund Budget

760 Vehicles

Article 04: *To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-Five Thousand Seven Hundred Seventy Dollars (\$55,770.00) for the purpose of purchasing a 2017 Ford Explorer to be used as a command vehicle with said funds to be withdrawn from the Apparatus and Equipment Special Revenue Fund established under RSA 31:95-C (Adopted March 7, 2005). This article is recommended by the Budget Committee. This article is not recommended by the Board of Commissioners. (Majority vote required.)*

Discussion ensued on the Chief's request for a new command vehicle and the reasoning behind the Board of Commissioners voting down. There was discussion about using one of the pickups as a command vehicle.

Peter Fogg made a motion declining the Budget Committee's approval of Warrant Article 4. Jane Alden seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

960 Rescue Equipment

960.400 Water & Ice Rescue: Jane Alden made a motion to fund this line at \$1,116. Peter Fogg seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about the \$400 difference between the Chief's budget and the Commissioners budget.

Jane Alden amended her motion to fund this line at \$787. Trish Sawicki seconded the motion. The replacement policy for dry suits was reviewed. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

TNFD Budget Committee Meeting
01/23/17

960.500 Extrication Tools: Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$17,488. Trish Sawicki seconded the motion. Tim Sattler commented they had a lengthy discussion about this at their last meeting. Chief Sitar explained how the combi tools are used and the reason they are requesting new tools. Discussion ensued. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed: 4 aye; 3 nay.

970 Grant Matching Funds

970.13 AFG Communications: Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$16,278. Trish Sawicki seconded the motion. Chief Sitar explained that last year he wrote a grant to replace the radios in the fire department. We would have to pay 5% to match what the federal government is paying. We did not receive the grant. He rewrote it and resubmitted the grant again this year. This is the 5% match the District will be responsible for if we are awarded the grant. Discussion ensued. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget Reconsiders

430 Repairs & Maintenance

430.01 Center Street Station: Chief Sitar explained that the radio antenna on the Center Street Station is broken. We need to replace it. The replacement cost is \$1,765.30. He did not have this in the budget. Since it is a fairly expensive item, he is asking them to reconsider this line to include the antenna. He is also asking for an additional \$1,000 per station for unexpected expenditures citing the garage door opener that is malfunctioning and may need to be replaced. That is a \$2,000 item. Discussion ensued about the contingency fund. Tim Sattler explained that when they voted this line previously they voted \$460 as a lot of the items the Chief had requested in his budget had already been taken care of.

Peter Fogg made a motion to fund this line at \$2,226 which includes \$1,766 for the antenna at Center Street. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about the additional \$2,000 the Chief requested. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Heating Fuel, Gasoline & Diesel

Chief Sitar requested the Budget Committee reconsider the amount the Budget Committee funded these lines at. Prices have increased since they were funded. He feels they are tight on the budget and if fuel prices increase they will have an issue. Discussion ensued.

411 Heating Fuel: Bob Petrin made a motion to increase heating fuel to \$7,000. Trish Sawicki seconded the motion. The last three years usage was reviewed. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion failed.

635 Gasoline & 636 Diesel: Past fuel usage was reviewed. The Park Street tank closure was discussed. The Budget Committee agreed to leave funding as previously voted.

Warrant Articles

Tim Sattler commented that W/A 5 will be the total of the budget with the changes that they made. The only number they changed would be adding \$1,766.

Bob Petrin made a motion to move W/A 6 to the floor for discussion. Peter Fogg seconded the motion.

Article 06: *To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate Forty-Five Thousand Five Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$45,530.00) for the purpose of refurbishing Engine 1, with said funds to be raised through taxation.*

Tim Sattler explained this is outside the maintenance line items in the budget. Chief Sitar commented that this is a 2001 engine and went on to describe the issues with the engine and his recommendations for refurbishment. Discussion ensued. Peter Fogg asked if the Apparatus & Equipment Replacement Fund would cover the cost of refurbishment. Chief Sitar explained how the Apparatus & Equipment Replacement Fund is set up. Discussion continued on the refurbishment of Engine 1.

There was discussion on the amount of funds in the Apparatus & Equipment Fund. The purpose of the fund was revisited.

There being no further discussion, vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously to recommend this article.

Article 10: *To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Seventy-Six Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety-Eight Dollars (\$76,898.00) for the purpose of adding to the Land & Building Fund with said funds to be withdrawn from the Unreserved Fund Balance. This article is recommended by the Board of Commissioners and Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)*

TNFD Budget Committee Meeting

01/23/17

Bob Petrin made a motion to move W/A 10 to the floor for discussion. Peter Fogg seconded the motion. Tim Sattler asked where this dollar amount came from. Chief Sitar explained this is bequests we have received from Bert Southwick and one other person. Discussion ensued. There being no further discussion, vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously to recommend this article.

Article 11: *To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ? Dollars (\$0.00) for the purpose of purchasing and installing at 30,000 gallon water cistern for fire protection at the corner of Shaw Road & Silver Lane. This article is recommended by the Board of Commissioners and Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)*

Peter Fogg made a motion to move W/A 11 to the floor for discussion. Jane Alden seconded the motion. Chief Sitar commented that he has not received the final estimate to prepare the site for the cistern. It won't be cheap as it might include blasting. Chief Sitar explained the cost for the cistern would be approximately \$65,000. Discussion ensued. Chief Sitar recommended the article be withdrawn until the final estimate is received. Peter Fogg rescinded his motion and Jane Alden rescinded her second. The Budget Committee unanimously agreed not to act on this warrant article until a dollar amount is received.

Article 12: *To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ? Dollars (\$0.00) for the purpose of design services and permit fees for a new fire station with said funds to be withdrawn from the Land & Building Fund. This article is recommended by the Board of Commissioners and Budget Committee. (Majority vote required.)*

Bob Petrin made a motion to move W/A 12 to the floor for discussion. Peter Fogg seconded the motion. Chief Sitar explained he will have the figure from Kyle Barker on Wednesday. Tim Sattler explained what the Building Committee has been doing. They will be asking the taxpayers to approve the concept and authorize the funds to do the engineering and get the permits. Then in 2018 you would have a vote for the bond for the building. After extended discussion, Jane Alden made a motion to table article 12. Bob Petrin seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting Schedule

Discussion ensued on the next meeting. It was decided the Committee will meet Monday, January 30th, at 5:30 PM.

Adjournment

Bob Petrin made a motion to adjourn. Paul Auger seconded the motion. There being no discussion, vote was taken. Meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Tobine
Administrative Assistant

Next Meeting Date, Time, Place:

January 23, 2017 at 5:30 PM. Meeting to be held at Tilton Town Hall, Downstairs Meeting Room, 257 Main Street, Tilton