

**Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS District  
Budget Committee Public Hearing  
Meeting Minutes February 13, 2019**

Budget Committee Members Present: Robert Petrin, Dennis Manning, Jane Alden,  
Kevin Waldron, Jason Wright, Charles Broughton  
Commissioners Present: Paul Auger, Paul Blaisdell, Eric Pyra  
Also Present: Chief Michael Sitar, Kathy Tobine, Stephanie Giovannucci

Public hearing called to order at 7:13pm.

**Petrin/Alden** moved to accept the meeting minutes of January 2, 2019. **Motion Passed.**

Chief Sitar opened up the public hearing with a slideshow presentation regarding the proposed new fire station.

Chief Sitar opened the meeting to the public for questions.

Questions ensued regarding the location, access from Manville Rd onto Rt. 3, the cost of the property and bringing the utilities to the property, upgrading the road and the improvements to the Park St station.

Chief added that we'd have to install an emergency light and a warning sign with a flashing light so drivers are warned of the upcoming emergency light. The Fire District owns the property and building on Center St, and can sell to offset some of the costs for the new station. There are no additional funds in the budget currently to hire additional staff to man both stations. The condition of purchasing the property for \$1 is to improve the road, and bring in the utilities to the property.

Chief added that the State and Insurance Company have both been to the Center St. station and have failed the inspection, there are many issues that are going to need to be fixed.

Blaisdell opened the Public Hearing for the 2019 Warrant articles at 8:45pm.

No questions for article 1 through 4.

Article 5 – Lisa Swancott asked about the balance in the Fund Balance. Chief Sitar replied \$405,178.

No questions for Article 6.

Article 7 – Chief added the vehicle is a new Chief vehicle, and the current one he has now is a 2009 with 115,000 miles, this is going to be used by the deputy.

No questions for Article 8 through 11

Article 12 – Chief added that every year this has to be reestablished, and the amount is 1% of the previous years operating budget.

Article 13 – Petition article started by Gretchen Wilder. Wilder spoke about the article, stating the two towns have different needs, different sources of revenues, two counties.

**No adjustments were made to the Warrant. Commissioner signed**

Robert Petrin opened the Public Hearing for the 2019 Proposed Budget at 9:10pm.

The public was given some time to look through the budget pages presented.

Petrin opened the floor for public comments which included the increase in overtime, hydrants, Mutual Aid, Information Technologies.

Chief stated that the overtime is due to coverage of staff that is either in training, sick, vacation, etc., the increase in payroll was an average of 2.9% wage increase. Adding 2 additional hydrants, Water District controls the number of hydrants and the pressure that has to be held at each hydrant. Chief added that for Mutual Aid we use 82% more than what we provide. Services TNFD provides for ambulance take longer because of what hospitals we have to bring the person to. Laconia and Franklin do not provide all of the same services as Concord or Manchester. Chief stated that the increase in Information Technologies is because we had money left over in 2017 and paid a bill early.

**No adjustments were made to the proposed budget. Members signed MS-737**

There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 9:35pm