

CHARLEMONT TOWN HALL

Minutes of the Finance Committee, SelectBoard and Capital Planning Committee Conference Call Joint Meeting

April 25, 2020

Present: Amy Wales, Rich Filoramo, Lynn Hathaway, Ron Smith, Marguerite Willis, Jay Healy, Sarah Reynolds, and Frank Mooney

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:17 a.m. by Rich Filoramo.
2. The minutes of the April 4, 2020 Joint Meeting were reviewed and approved.
3. Fire Chief Dennis Annear joined the conference call to discuss the Department's capital requests:
 - a. Skid Unit: \$17,000, to replace the Brush Truck, which is no longer usable. He said he cannot justify a new brush truck, as the old one was used maybe two or three times in the last two years. The Skid Unit can be mounted on a pick-up truck, and do the same functions as the Brush Truck. There were no objections to leaving this item on the Capital list.
 - b. Old Pumper Truck: it was sold for \$60,000, which had to go into the Free Cash account. They have another truck (Rescue Truck) that they are trying to equip. \$10,000 was used from this year's budget, but he needs another \$20,000 to finish equipping the truck. He wants the money allocated before the ATM. The consensus was that the CPC needs to make a recommendation.
 - c. Tahoe: he still has the Tahoe vehicle. The ATM of last year approved a replacement vehicle, for \$55,000, to be shared with the Town of Rowe. Rowe was to give \$5,000/year toward the cost, for 5 years. There was much discussion about the difference between the Town owning the Chief's administrative vehicle and the Chief instead using his private vehicle, with the Town picking up the vehicle insurance policy. Either Marguerite or Sarah will contact an insurance agent to get the lowdown on how these insurance policies work and the costs. Marguerite suggested that a Warrant Article be submitted to the ATM for \$55,000 and a 5 year lease. Dennis is to get back to the SelectBoard next week with the annual cost including interest for the lease. Dennis is quite sure that Rowe has approved the budget for its share of the cost. The CPC will also have to make a recommendation to put the \$55,000 cost on the Capital Request List.
 - d. Radios: there is still the question about which radios the Town should purchase. There is a "free option", where the only cost would be installation. But according to Dennis, after the 3 year warranty is up, there is no longer service available because those radios were specially manufactured by another vendor, and Motorola, the manufacturer of the "cost" radios, will not service them. But Dana from Ambulance is very satisfied with the "free" option, and is recommending those radios. The Motorola radios that Dennis recommends would cost \$500 each plus installation cost, and come to a total of \$20,000 for all his radios, \$10,000 for the radios and \$10,000 for installation. He said the Motorola dealer would service those radios after the warranty period. Marguerite moved, and Sarah Reynolds seconded, that the SelectBoard Liaisons check with Police and Ambulance about their radio needs and requests, bring that information to the SelectBoard meeting next Monday, at which time a recommendation will be made to the CPC and Finance Committee. The motion passed.

- e. There was a suggestion that the Skid Utility request be moved to another FY, like 2024. Dennis was okay with that suggestion. Ron Smith moved, for the CPC, the Skid Utility request be moved to FY 2024. Frank Mooney seconded. The motion passed.
4. EMT On-Call Budget: Marguerite checked with Dana, and he is okay with the reduced amount to \$30,000.
5. Gordon Hathaway joined the conference call: Contracted Services question on increases: sweeping contract went from \$125/hour to \$150/hour. Winter Contracted Services: based on 5 year average. Not an overall increase. Uniform budget - can decrease Account # 422-5580 - reduced from \$5694 to \$4700. Emergency Road Maintenance – can be level funded, reduce by \$495.
6. Next meeting: scheduled for May 16, 2020, at 8:15 a.m.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Smith

Documents viewed:

Capital Planning Committee Request List

FY 2021 Budget Worksheet, 4th Draft

This document is a draft until approved by the Finance Committee.