

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 31, 2007**

Present: Gary Winn, Chairman; Susan Newcomer, Steve Laskowski, Wanda McNamara, Selectmen's Representative; Rick Carrier, Town Administrator; Bob Brockmann, Bill Bucknell, John Koopman, Elliot Rowsey, Fred Szmit, Judy Idelkope, School Board Representative and Amy LaFontaine, Secretary.

Absent: Dave Thomas, Spofford Fire Precinct; Mike LeClaire, Chesterfield Fire Precinct and Anita Barber.

Guests: Sharyn D'Eon, Principal

1100 Regular Instruction- Fred moved to discuss Special Instruction. The motion was seconded by Sue. The Board does not have any control over tuition. 8 teachers have been replace this year. 3 are retiring next year and 2 the year after. Sue stated that the # of students at the high school are always overbudgeted. Sue moved to reduce 3 students from HS tuition by \$27,774. The motion was seconded by Bob and passed by majority. Fred dissented.

1200 SPED-Fred moved to recommend \$1,800,006. The motion was seconded by Steve and passed unanimously.

1400 Co-Curricular- Sue moved to recommend \$5,165. The motion was seconded by Bill and passed unanimously.

2110 Attendance-Wanda moved to recommend \$1. The motion was seconded by Steve and passed unanimously.

2120 Guidance- Bill moved to recommend \$5,596. The motion was seconded by Bob and passed unanimously.

2130 Health- Sue moved to recommend \$80,338. The motion was seconded by Bill. Wanda asked if the school nurse could teach classes. Once the school has more than 350 students it is advised that the nurse has too many students to manage as well as to teach. Steve stated that he could hire a paramedic working under a Rescue Inc physician contract for \$40,000. This should be looked into in the future. The motion passed by majority. Wanda voted No.

2140 Psychology-Fred moved to recommend \$96,189. The motion was seconded by Bob and passed unanimously.

2150 Speech Pathology- Sue moved to recommend \$81,381. The motion was seconded by Bob and passed unanimously.

2160 OT/PT- Sue moved to recommend \$37,625. The motion was seconded by Steve and passed unanimously.

2210 Staff Development- Bill moved to recommend \$51,232. The motion was seconded by Elliot and passed unanimously. The school has received a \$74,000 grant for Math to be shared with Winchester and Keene.

2220 Library- Sue moved to recommend \$104,949. The motion was seconded by Steve. Steve stated that a science book was outdated before it was published. He felt that the school should be moving toward electronic information for Science. Wanda hoped that a school would never again purchase a set of encyclopedias. John thought more funds should be expended on software. Judy stated that the public library is asking for \$16,500 for print media. The school is requesting \$6,200. The school has a circulation of 13,000. The public library is only 10,000. Sue thought it was difficult to read articles on the screen. She needs to print it out. She stated that the majority of a class with 20 students would still be using real books because there are only 8 networked computers in the library. Fred stated that the intent of the school is to vacate the library and create a computer lab. He stated that technology should be a priority and we need to find the space. The motion passed unanimously.

2290 Consultation- Fred moved to recommend \$2,800. The motion was seconded by Steve and passed unanimously.

2310 School Board Services- Sue moved to recommend \$25,772. The motion was seconded by Wanda and passed unanimously.

Sue moved to recommend \$435,999 for Total SAU #29 Services. The motion was seconded by Judy. Chesterfield is under contract with the SAU to pay for these services. Judy stated that the SAU would like to see all of the Towns withdraw. Sue thought the numbers in the SAU were too high and it has become inefficient. Bill asked if Chesterfield would be able to house administration for a smaller SAU. Steve stated that the costs may not be any less with a separate SAU. Bob nominated Sue to write a letter to the SAU. She will write a letter for review at the next meeting, then send it to the SAU and the newspaper. Judy stated that even if we don't withdraw from the SAU there is a chance to decrease costs. The motion passed by majority. Elliot and Bob voted No.

2410 School Administration- Bill moved to recommend \$285,653. The motion was seconded by John and passed unanimously.

2600 School Maintenance- Elliot moved to recommend \$306,894. The motion was seconded by Fred and passed unanimously. A suggestion was made to have the Town take care of the grounds.

2700 Transportation- Fred moved to recommend \$411,132. The motion was seconded by Sue and passed unanimously. Gary wished that parents would send their children to school on the bus and reduce the need to spend \$300,000 on improving the parking lot.

2800 Staff Services-Sue moved to recommend \$500. The motion was seconded by Bill and passed unanimously.

5220 Transfers- Wanda moved to recommend \$240,000. The motion was seconded by Sue and passed unanimously. \$5,000 for the lunch program should not be used.

Steve moved to recommend \$7,710,184 for the 2007 School Budget. The motion was seconded by Bob and passed unanimously.

Warrant Article 3: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate \$100,000 for boiler replacement and related heating system reconstruction at Chesterfield School and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$70,000 from the CRF established by voters March 5, 1994 for such a purpose. Fred moved to recommend Article 3. The motion was seconded by Steve and passed unanimously. If the boiler is replaced for less than \$70,000 it will come out of the CRF.

Warrant Article 4: To see if the District will vote to appropriate and authorize the School Board to transfer up to \$30,000 of its unencumbered funds, if any remain on hand at the end of the fiscal year, June 30, 2007 to be deposited in the Capital Reserve Fund established by voters on March 5, 1994 for the purpose of major renovation/reconstruction of the school buildings and related costs, or to take any other action in relation thereto. Bill moved to recommend Warrant Article 4. The motion was seconded by Fred and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9PM. The Committee returned to the Town Budget recessed last night.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary