

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 18, 2008**

Present: Gary Winn, Chairman; Steve Laskowski, Judy Idelkope, School Board Representative; Elliot Rowsey, Mike Wiggin, Spofford Fire Precinct Representative (departed 9:25 PM); Dan Cotter, Selectmen's Representative (arrived at 7:05 PM); Bayard Tracy, Fred Szmit (departed at 9:25 PM), Warren Porter, John Koopman, John Zannotti, Bill Bucknell (arrived at 7:06 PM).

Absent: Elaine Blake, CF&R Fire Representative

Guests: Rick Carrier, Town Administrator; and Jamie Dow, DRA Representative

1). Department of Revenue Administration - Jamie was present to discuss some policies and procedures from the DRA. She provided sample handouts for a school. DRA has authority over appropriations only. The Town, Village Districts & School can only approve 10% more than what was recommended by the Budget Committee. Capital Reserve Funds, Expendable Trust Funds and Petitions are considered Special Warrant Articles. Only Special Warrant Articles are required to be expended as described in the Warrant Article. Regular Warrant Articles can be reappropriated at the discretion of the Selectboard. There has to be money in the line item being transferred to in order to reallocate the expenditure. Tax Impact can no longer be posted on warrants unless approved by the Town at a previous meeting. If the expenditures from Town Meeting exceed 10% approved by the Budget Committee, the first item that is approved beyond the 10% are disallowed. Jamie briefly reviewed Chapter 32 RSA's. These are the rules that govern Budget Committees. The Committee asked how the tax rate is set. Jamie stated that there are too many variables to predict the tax rate ahead of time. Jamie will e-mail the corrected package to the Committee.

2). Housekeeping – Fred moved to approve October 27th minutes as submitted. Fireman Phil is a figure for Fire Safety at the school. Fireman Phil is no longer working with Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Precinct. The motion was seconded by Mike and passed unanimously by the Committee. Rick and Mike will not be able to attend November 25th. The Budget for General Government Buildings is still to come. The Committee would still like to look at Central Purchasing for the Town. They are still waiting for a written response to their letter from the Selectboard. The Committee will meet November 25th, December 16th and January 6th. John Z. moved to adjourn at 9:40 PM. The motion was seconded by John K. and passed unanimously by the Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary