

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 2, 2010**

Present: Gary Winn, Chairman; Bob Brockmann, Selectboard Representative; Steve Laskowski, Mike Wiggin, Spofford Fire Precinct Representative; Elliot Rowsey, Bayard Tracy, John Zannotti, Becky Auger, School Board Representative; Warren Porter, Deb Hogancamp, CF&R Representative; Rick Carrier, Town Administrator and Amy LaFontaine, Secretary

Absent: Fred Szmit, Bill Bucknell and John Koopman

1). Steve moved to approve the January 30th Town & Fire Precinct minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Deb and passed unanimously.

2). John moved to recommend the total operating budget of \$2,784,834. The motion was seconded by Deb and passed unanimously. Gary will write a thank-you letter to the Board of Selectmen thanking the department heads for their efforts this Budget Season. The letter will be sent to the Committee prior to mailing.

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$213,980 for the purpose of resurfacing Town roads, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). Steve moved to recommend article 5. The motion was seconded by Elliot and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$75,000 to be added to the already established Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Steve moved to recommend article 6. The motion was seconded by Deb and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$210,000 to purchase a new Grader for the Highway Department and authorize the withdrawal of up to \$210,000 from the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, said amount to be offset by the amount received from the trade-in or sale of the existing Grader, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). Deb moved to recommend article 7. The motion was seconded by Warren and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the already established Roadways Construction/Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. The balance in the fund is \$118,000. The balance is after the work to date on Old Chesterfield Road. Deb moved to recommend article 8. The motion was seconded by Mike and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,000 to be added to the already established Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. The reval will be in 2013 the estimated cost is between \$150,000 and \$200,000. Deb moved to recommend article 9. The motion was seconded by Warren and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$24,000 for the purchase and installation of a Generator for the Town Office Building, funding for this purchase will be from a grant in the amount of \$14,438 and the balance of \$9,562 from general taxation, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). The estimate is from Powers Generators installed. Deb moved to recommend article 10. The motion was seconded by Bayard and passed by majority vote. Steve voted no.

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$130,000 to install Solar Photovoltaic panels at the Highway Garage, funding for this purpose will be from a grant in the amount of \$123,500 and the balance not to exceed \$6,500 from general taxation, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). There is a 25 year warranty on the panels. If the Town is approved for the Grant is there an obligation to expend. The answer is no as long as the money isn't spent. Deb moved to recommend article 11. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed by majority vote. Steve voted no.

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$125,000 to replace the Furnaces and Insulate at the Town Hall, funding for this purpose will be from a grant in the amount of \$112,500 and the balance not to exceed \$12,500 from general taxation, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). Gary stated that a 7KW Selectric Water Heater was installed in the past and removed because the flow was too slow. The building is used by non-profits and residents. The forced hot air is being removed and replaced with radiators. The Town received a free energy audit. The Selectboard chose the Town Hall for the audit. This is a recommendation based on the audit. The system will be natural gas. Deb moved to recommend article 12. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed by majority vote. Bayard voted no.

ARTICLE 13: To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum \$23,000 to be added to the already established Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. There are 4 police vehicles in Town. There are 5 full-time officers. There is one Town Car with 130,000 to 135,000 miles on it. Keene turns over their cruisers at 80,000 miles. The Town keeps theirs to 120,000 miles. John moved to recommend article 13. The motion was seconded by Deb and passed by majority. Steve, Bayard and Warren voted no.

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,000 to be added to the already established Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto.

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,200 to purchase a new Police Department Mobile Data Terminal Laptop Computer, and authorize the withdrawal of up to \$4,200 from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d).

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,200 for the purchase of a Digital Cruiser Mounted Radio for the Police Department and authorize the withdrawal of up to \$4,200 from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d).

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,500 for computer upgrades at the Police Department and authorize the withdrawal of up to \$1,500 from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). John moved to recommend article 14, 15, 16, and 17. The motion was seconded by Deb and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,500 to purchase a Smart Cart Radar Trailer, funding for this purchase will be from a grant in the amount of at least \$3,250 and further to authorize the withdrawal of the balance up to \$3,250 from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). Bayard stated that this seem liked a luxury item at this time. This is the first exit off the interstate. It would make sense to use whatever tools we have available. Steve asked about patrol hours \$30 per hour for a patrolman. Deb moved to recommend article 18. The motion was seconded by John and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to resurface the Tennis Court in the center of Town and authorize the withdrawal of up to \$5,000 from the Outdoor Court Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). The court is starting to wear at the edges. Becky asked about the possibility of having a second tennis court next to this one. That could be quite a ways in the future. Deb moved to recommend article 19. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to construct a children's play structure at Wares Grove Beach and authorize the withdrawal of up to \$3,000 from the Wares Grove Recreation Facility Enhancement Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d). The play structure will go where the old basketball court was. The beach is open from Memorial Day to Labor Day and weekends in September. It could be available year round. Deb moved to recommend article 20. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to the already established Parks and Rec Building Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Deb moved to recommend article 21. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to establish a Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 to be known as the Parks and Rec 4x4 All Terrain Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of purchasing a 4x4 all terrain vehicle for the Parks and Recreation Department and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to be placed in this fund, or act in any way related thereto. The Committee discussed the need for a Capital Reserve Fund for such a small item. The intent is not to purchase the 4X4 this year. Deb moved to recommend article 22. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed by majority. Steve voted no.

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to create an expendable general fund trust fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a, to be known as the Parks and Rec pickup truck Expendable Trust Fund for the purpose of purchasing a pickup truck for the Parks and Recreation Department, and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to be placed in this fund. And further, to see if the Town will vote to appoint the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from this fund, or act in any way related thereto. There is a donated 2001 pick-up truck that is used for mower and weed whacker transportation as well as transportation to open and close the beach. Deb moved to recommend article 23. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed by majority. Steve and Bayard voted no.

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the already established Library Building Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Deb moved to recommend article 24. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to be added to the already established Library Technology Migration Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related

thereto. This is only the 2nd year that this fund has been contributed to. The current company is out of business. Becky moved to recommend article 25. The motion was seconded by Deb and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to the already established Wildland Fire Suppression Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Mike stated that there were no longer state funds to suppress wildfires. Deb moved to recommend article 26. The motion was seconded by Mike and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,500 to be added to the already established Friedsam Cemetery Development Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. Deb moved to recommend article 27. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to be added to the already established Cemetery Truck Replacement Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. The truck is only used 5 months out of the year. It sits more than half the year. Deb moved to recommend article 28. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to be added to the already established Cemetery Mower Replacement Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. There is currently \$11,000 in the Fund. A mower may have been purchased this fall. The cost to replace could be \$7,000 to \$8,000. Deb moved to recommend article 29. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed unanimously.

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,194 to support the following, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 I (d).

Chesterfield Senior Meals program	200
Home Health, Meals on Wheels and Age in Motion	7,961
Monadnock Family Services/Mental Health	4,693
Community Kitchen	6,500
Youth Services	140
Southwestern Community Services	1,700
Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice	500
Samaritans	300
Drop In Center	200
TOTAL	22,194

Warren stated that he objected to charitable giving with his taxes. Deb moved to recommend article 30. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed by majority. Warren voted no.

Petition: To see if the Town of Chesterfield will raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to better inform the citizens of Chesterfield about important information. This money would be used to notify the town's people whenever there is important information that needs to be transmitted and/or clarified about town business. The intended methodology is to send is to send mail notification to all households, thus either informing them of upcoming meetings, issues and information and/or driving the townspeople to the Town of Chesterfield website for further information. This is intended to involve and inform

many more citizens of Chesterfield. Deb moved to recommend the petition. Becky moved to 2nd the petition. The signatures on the petition have not yet been verified by the Supervisors of the Checklist. Only 25 are required. There are 28. The Committee was concerned about the wording in the petition. How often should mailings go out? What should the content be? For the households that do not have access to the internet what should be on the postcard? The petition failed by majority vote. John, Becky and Gary voted Yes.

Rick asked about another meeting to approve minutes, sign paperwork and discuss discussion for the meetings. Rick will need articles for the Town Report by February 10th. The Committee did not feel the need to meet prior to the meeting. Gary will be available on Monday evening to get signatures on the paperwork for the Town, School and Fire if needed.

Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Precinct - John moved to recommend the operating budget of \$89,890. The motion was seconded by Mike and passed unanimously.

Article 6: To see if the Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$11,000 to be added to the already established CF&R Small Equipment CRF, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 1(d). Only \$8,000 was put in last year to reduce the tax burden. John moved to recommend article 6. The motion was seconded by Mike and passed unanimously.

Article 7: To see if the Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,200 for the purchase of personal protection equipment, a computer, and radios and to authorize the withdrawal of up to \$6,200 from the CF&R Small Equipment CRF for the purchase of said equipment, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 1(d). Mike moved to recommend article 7. The motion was seconded by John and passed unanimously.

Article 8: To see if the Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$52,000 to be added to the already established CF&R Heavy Equipment CRF, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 1(d). Mike moved to recommend article 8. The motion was seconded by John and passed unanimously.

Article 9: To see if the Precinct will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$7,000 to be added to the already established CF&R Catastrophic Event Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:10 1(d). One of the tankers sprung a leak that was \$11,000. It will not need to be replaced in a 2 years per the schedule. The repair increased its usable life. Mike moved to recommend article 9. The motion was seconded by John and passed unanimously.

Spofford Fire District – Deb moved to recommend the operating budget of \$204,881. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed unanimously.

Article 5: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$28,665 to be added to the Heavy Equipment CRF previously established. Deb moved to recommend article 5. The motion was seconded by Bayard and passed unanimously.

Article 6: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,900 to be added to the Small Equipment CRF previously established. There will be a big expenditure this year. Elliot moved to recommend article 6. The motion was seconded by Bayard and passed unanimously.

Article 7: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to be added to the Water Hole Expendable Trust Fund previously established. Planning Board projects should be planning for their own fire ponds. There is only \$6,200 in the fund. Deb moved to recommend article 7. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed unanimously.

Article 8: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to be added to the Catastrophic Emergency Expendable Trust Fund. Deb moved to recommend article 8. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed unanimously.

Article 9: To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,250 to purchase SCBA's and Fire Gear and authorize the withdrawal of \$30,250 from the Small Equipment CRF created for that purpose. The article allows for the replacement of possible 5 SCBA's. Fire gear for one volunteer is around \$12,000. John moved to recommend article 9. The motion was seconded by Deb and passed unanimously.

Article 10: To see if the District will vote to discontinue the old Fire Station Disposal Expendable Trust Fund created in 2008. Said funds with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the Districts General Fund.

Article 11: To see if the District will vote to create an Expendable Trust Fund under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a to be known as the Building Maintenance Fund, for the purpose of maintaining and repairing the Spofford Fire Station and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000. This sum to come from fund balance (surplus) and no amount to be raised from taxation. There aren't any anticipated repairs to the building for a while. Deb moved to recommend article 10 and 11. The motion was seconded by Becky and passed unanimously.

Article 12: To see if the District will vote to appoint the Commissioners as agents to expend from the Heavy Equipment CRF already established. There is no action required by the budget committee.

The next meeting will be tomorrow night at 7 PM. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary