

Town of Montville Finance Committee

Special Meeting Minutes for

March 26, 2024

Room 203 6:00 PM

1. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM. Present were Councilors May, Jaskiewicz and Lathrop. Finance Director Barbara Griffin was present. Also present, Police Chief Blanchette and Lt Radford and Mayor Bunnell.
2. Remarks from the Public: None
3. Minutes of the 3/21/2024 meeting will be taken up next meeting.
4. Agenda items as follows:

The following budgets were discussed with Chief Blanchette and Lt Radford.

In Police Protection budget, the line item Uniforms was increased by \$2,000 to \$22,000; The Supplies line item was increased by \$500 and Reference Materials were reduced by \$500. Cellular Phone was increased by \$700.

Community outreach programs were discussed and, though not in the budget, the committee did propose that the following be included. \$6,000 for National Night Out held the first Tuesday in August. This program was absorbed in the operating budget this past year; \$10,000 for Citizens Police Academy, a program that replicates aspects of police training. This program may serve as a recruitment opportunity or just be of interest to those who want to understand more about what police do; \$5,000 for a Comfort Dog Program; and, \$5,000 was added for DARE supplies. Budget stands at \$3,299,626.

The committee recommended changes to Animal Control budget were to reduce uniforms by \$500 and increase cellular phone by \$150. The budget stands at \$45,152.

Changes to Dispatch were to increase overtime by \$36,000 so budget stands at \$801,250.

Changes made to Public Safety Building were to decrease Electricity by \$5,000; decrease Natural Gas by \$2,000; increase Water & Sewer Charges by \$600 and reduced Misc Supplies by \$200. The budget stands at \$77,400.

The committee reviewed Police Department capital items. It was noted that the only thing requested is Vests for \$20,000 this year and same amount next fiscal year. This will be taken up in the Capital budget meeting. Of note were other items that will be included in the next fiscal year including Tasers and Dispatch radios.

Update from Finance Director: no further comments

Remarks from the public: none

Update from Councilors: none

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM