

Town of Montville Finance Committee

Special Meeting Minutes for

May 10, 2016

5:00 p.m. Room 203

Councilor Longton called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. He also led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Councilor Tanner, Councilor Pollard, Mayor McDaniel and Finance Director Hart. Also present was Councilor Jaskiewicz.

Remarks from the public: Michael Hillsberg of Lisa Lane stated that he supported the full-time firefighter position for the Chesterfield Fire Dept. He also said that there should be more funds allocated for the paving of Town roads. Keith Truex of the Chesterfield Fire Dept supported the full-time firefighter position. He asked, if the committee does cut the funding for this position, that they restore the funds in the overtime line.

The committee reviewed the Information Technology budget with Director Bill O'Neill. He went over the email he had sent to the committee that outlined in great detail his responsibilities and his need to make his part-time technician a full-time position. He explained that his department takes care of hardware and software upgrades, servers, security and backups. There was discussion about hiring two part-timers instead of one full-time. O'Neill said that he'd prefer a full-timer because of training and turn over. Councilor Tanner said she agreed with having a full-timer instead of two part-timers. O'Neill stated that all departments depend on their computers to do their jobs.

The committee went over the Public Works budget with Director Don Bourdeau. There was a discussion about the Town roads. He explained that he has budgeted for a road assessment program. He said that the increase of \$200,000 is really not enough and he would need about \$2 million. The increases for maintenance at Fair Oaks is due to Youth Services moving there. There are increases to other lines for maintenance of buildings which are due to new maintenance contracts. The increase in street lighting is because of the uncertainty of when the new LED lighting will be installed. There is also an increase in tree removal. This is for trimming trees near powerlines. There was also a discussion regarding recycling and the contract with Willimantic Waste.

Ray Occhialini, Fire Marshal, was present to go over his budgets. He explained the need to have a full-time firefighter in Chesterfield. He also would like the funds for a firefighter to work Saturdays in Oakdale restored. There is an increase in equipment maintenance which is due to the necessary repairs to the fire vehicles. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the dispatchers and the amount budgeted for overtime. Councilor Tanner suggested looking into outsourcing for dispatch. The Mayor stated that the Town is currently in negotiations for the Dispatch contract. Occhialini also stated that he had one item in the capital plan which was for a radio combiner. This would complete the radio system.

There was a discussion regarding the Animal Control Officer's SUV being used by the police. The committee feels that the Town can purchase a less expensive vehicle for the ACO and utilize her current SUV for a patrol car and MTV1 for a detective car.

The committee also discussed the transportation for the summer camp program. Hart will check and see if the BOE is charging for picking up the children at the schools and bringing them to the camp.

Remarks from the public: Keith Truex stated the importance of having a full-time firefighter in Chesterfield.

Wills Pike of Pheasant Run agreed with the committee using the ACO vehicle for the police. He also feels something should be done about the dispatch overtime. He feels it would be a mistake to hire two part-timers for IT. He has issue with the amount of money the BOE spends on capital out of their operating budget. He would like to know who is responsible for the buildings; the Town or the BOE.

Michael Hillsberg stated that the Town should look at outsourcing the busing at the BOE. He feels there would be a great deal of savings.

Councilor Tanner moved, second by Councilor Pollard, to adjourn at 7:12 pm.

Theresa Hart, Director of Finance