

Town of Montville Finance Committee

Special Meeting Minutes for

May 23, 2017

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 Councilors Tanner, Jaskiewicz, Rogulski (5:10 pm) and May (5:33 pm). Finance Director Hart was also present.

Councilor Tanner moved, second by Councilor Longton, to approve the minutes of the 5/18/17 meeting. Motion passed.

Remarks from the Public: Robert Manfredi of Heather Brook Road read a letter regarding the school budget. He expressed his concerns about declining enrollment and feels the Town does not need three elementary schools. He also stated that he feels the surplus funds in the WPCA budget should be returned to the taxpayers.

Discussion of the 2017-18 Budget:

Youth Services: Barbara Lockhart and Dan Dunn were present to review the Youth Services budget. The committee asked if the Program Developer also works for Park and Rec. She explained that this is not a shared position. Lockhart explained that the increase of \$5,000 for part-time youth workers (there are six) was offset by the fee increase for the after school program. The increase in overtime is due to a transfer from Family Counseling.

Information Technology: Bill O'Neill reviewed his budget with the committee. He explained the increase in support and access fees was due to a 3% increase from the vendors providing the services. He also explained the various maintenance agreements he has. The increase in training and conferences is because there are now two people in the IT Department.

The committee recessed at 5:30 pm and reconvened at 5:50 pm.

Animal Control: Chris Swanson reviewed her budget. She explained that uniforms are purchased for her and her four part-time employees. The increase in advertising is due to the increase in the cost of ads.

The committee recessed at 6:00 pm and reconvened at 6:16 pm.

Raymond Library: Sherwood Raymond, JoAnne Westkamper and Stacia Miner were present to answer questions regarding the library budget. They have requested a \$15,000 increase. Their annual expenses are close to \$150,000. They have reached the point that for the last several years they have had to extract funds from the principle amount of the endowment, depleting its value. They are concerned about how they will manage the library's expenses if this continues. They explained over the years they have made several improvements to the building and property using their own funds. They have increased the library hours by two hours each week. They need to use money from the investment fund to cover these expenses. Soon they will need to remove an underground oil tank which will cost an estimated \$25,000.

Remarks from the Public: None

The meeting was adjourned at 6:41 PM.

Theresa Hart, Director of Finance