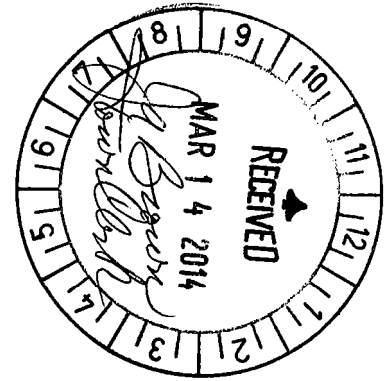


## Finance Committee Meeting

2-10-2014 @ 7:00 PM



The meeting was called to order by Brad Paiva at 7:05 PM.

Discussions would include budgets from Police, Fire, Highway, and VA Benefits

### Veteran's Affairs - #543

Budget includes \$1,000 increase as few clients ran out of fuel assistance - rest stayed basically the same. Two clients on active list will be coming off the books by March due to acquiring Full-Time employment. There are currently 18 active members, one new client was picked up last week. One client is actively searching for work, formerly shoed horses so is currently taking computer training in hopes to get a job. \$500.00 is allotted each member for fuel assistance and the state reimburses 75% of the funds.

The flags have been purchased for Memorial Day and 75% of the expenses is reimbursed by the state. Will need at least 5 wreaths.

Education training is part of budget and is reimbursed 100%.

### Highway Department

Kept everything even with a slight increase for employees (1.5% for first 6 months, 2% for second six months) and the surveyor increase was 3%.

Would like to hire 2 new employees - a truck driver and a mechanic at the entry level of \$37,092.00. One employee lost his CDL license and hoist certification so he can't drive or run equipment. Currently the mechanic is overwhelmed so would like to bring in an intern to train as mechanic to replace when he retires in 2018. With the fire, police, COA van and highway trucks, there are over 60 vehicles that are constantly needing mechanical work. Would like to find someone that is ASC certified.

Bob stated that without laptops and scanners, most of the diagnostic repairs would need to be sent out. The software for the repairs costs thousands and they are hard to acquire. With most of the equipment now being computerized there is no way a mechanic would be able to diagnose the problem and we would not be able to pay enough to get a mechanic/diagnostic tech in to take care of the work that comes in. Then if you hire a guy to do the job and we don't have the equipment, what good is it. What will the added mechanic be doing. Heavy equipment is sent to the dealer, diagnostics is sent to the dealer, so only routine maintenance is done here.

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There was an increase in the uniform budget - \$1400 to add the two new employees, \$500 to maintain the current employees. Once the contract runs out, would like to get bids from other companies.

Still mowing the ball fields when there is other work that can be done. Waste of 3 days of man power. Stated that it keeps the employees busy because if he gives them other jobs, it costs more money and it

*Accepted 2/24/14*  
*BE*

is not in the budget. Was told to create a list of repairs that his team can do that would not be put out for bid and the town would look to supplying the funding to complete in order of priority.

\$15,000 for signs and lines, last year \$13,500 was budgeted. It was stated that kids stole 17 signs that now need to be replaced. Each pole is about \$50.00. Was asked if it was reported to the police, but did not get a straight answer. Also said that some basins were stolen from the yard and that was reported to the police.

Capital items that will be discussed at a later date - replace a 1990 F250 truck, replace a 2002 GMC, lawn mower that was donated by the FYAA that is 12 years old, and another lawn mower that was donated by Stop & Shop that is 10 years old.

#### **Fire - #220**

2.83% up from last year - 1.5% increase for 7 employees, 0.5% increase for 1 employee.

This year the para-meds are up for training, but the professional training is on its off year.

Call fire-fighters are working 33% of the OT shifts at \$16.00/hr, and the fire-fighters are working 64% of the OT shifts at \$44.00/hr. The roster is done alphabetically and the call fire-fighters are working shifts with the FT fire-fighters. Most call fire-fighters are not able to leave their jobs to go on a call. There are currently 28 call fire-fighters in place. It was requested that the scheduling process be checked for any improvements to utilize the call fire-fighters for more shifts. The call fire-fighters have been maintaining Station #2 and may need to buy paint. All stations are in need of major repairs.

Electricity was increased by \$1,000 and repair/maintenance was increased by \$2,000. IMC was increased by 3%.

Generator croaked, maintenance took two days and has not received the bill.

Would like to request a tanker and a truck through federal assistance. Also pagers was \$11,000. From 2000/2001, they are shipped to FL for repairs and then returned. They would like to retire them and purchase new ones - 25 pagers at \$350/ea.

Lost 3 fire-fighters - 1 moved to VA, 1 went to Lakeville, and 1 went to Boston. Would like to add one fire-fighter and is actively recruiting from the call fire-fighters.

#### **Police**

Increase in personnel - contractual increases, step increase, increase in education. One officer is about to receive his MA in Criminal Justice which would be an increase of about \$15,000 as he did not qualify for the BA increase as it was not in the Criminal Justice field. Chiefs and officer (adjusted salary plus Holiday pay less college incentive) salary was adjusted using 52 weeks plus one day formula. Payroll goes from July 1 to June 30 which is why the 1 day is added. This was confirmed by Janice.

IMC bill is still outstanding.

Professional Tech Med includes medical exams for hiring reserves and also a psychological and physiological exam.

Uniform accessories includes ballistic vests for officers and new hires at a cost of \$795/ea. There is a 5-year cycle for replacement.

Fire arms was \$18,800 including a transfer of \$10,000 for ammunition this year from training OT. This was a total increase of \$8800.

Lost 3 patrolmen - 1 had no college, 2 had a BA.

Next meeting is 2-24-2014 at 7:00 PM

Agenda items:

Longevity varies from department to department

Police, Fire, Communication, and Town Hall Contracts

Motion to adjourn by Paul, seconded by Bob.

Brad closed meeting at 8:49

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