

Town of Charlton

Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Selectman's Meeting Room

Sept 6, 2017

Meeting came to order at 6:30

In attendance: Jerry Doble – Chairman, Hank Camosse – Vice Chairman, Maura O'Connor, John Grondalski, Joe Spiewak, Carol Brodeur, Jason Julian & Keith Johnson

Invited Guests: Robin Craver – Town Administrator, Interim Police Chief Charette & Fire Chief Cloutier

1. Motion by Hank Camosse to approve previous meeting minutes – Approved unanimously.
2. Chief Charette: Update/Overview on billing of detail invoices. Last January Chief Charette started taking a closer look at overdue bills from previous detail work by Charlton Officers. Many of the detail shifts had not been invoiced; some of which were over a year old. Much of the billing issue has been sorted and money is now coming into the department for past due. He is confident that going forward it will be a case of monitoring, but some of the past due bills he cannot guarantee will be paid as many of those jobs have been closed.

Request for Capital: Looking for 2 cruisers due to basic wear/tear. The Dept. is also looking at 5 new radios at \$2,500 per radio for a total of \$12,500. They are looking to combine with the Fire Department for the same radios.

3. Chief Cloutier: August of 2016 the Dept. received a grant for 1.7 million dollars which has been used for the addition of additional fire personnel; which has brought the department up to 22 people and as a result, overtime is decreased and sick time is down 30%. Also 13% increase in call volume – and projecting 2400 calls for the remainder of 2017, and mutual aid is down 62%. However, 2 positions are currently open due to attrition and would like to fill those soon. Chief Cloutier will be applying for the grant again and will continue to track numbers.

Requests for Capital: Fire Gear for \$35,145 because the gear is only good for 10 years and must be replaced. Also looking for a new EMD at \$39,000 and a pickup truck will be of great utilization. Ambulance #3 will need a replacement which will be \$220,000.

4. Highway Department: Mr. Foskett will be looking for a backhoe.
5. Public Safety Building Project: This is looking at the combination of the Fire/Police building. Currently the regional dispatch only has two willing towns; three deferred. Also looking at purchasing the Guy and

Lemay property adjacent to the current Police Dept. Building and what can be done with that current building.

6. Town Hall – Carpets need to be replaced now that the elevator project has been completed.
7. Archival Storage project: \$250,000 was appropriated which was not enough. The bids showed the project could reach up to \$600,000. The town is reviewing their options.
8. Introduction and talk with new town Finance Director.
9. School Budget meeting on September 19, 2017 at 6pm – Shepherd Hill Library.
10. The Finance Committee acknowledged that the town stabilization fund needs to go up. Select Board is closing on the warrant next week.

The Finance Committee would like to hear from Jerry Foskett from the Highway Dept. and the Public Safety Building Committee at the next meeting on Wednesday, September 27th.

Motion to adjourn by Hank Camosse, 2nd by Maura O'Connor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05pm

Voted: ___ / ___ / ___

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