



## SELECTBOARD MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16, 2015

Members Present: Bob Beeman, Brian Kellogg, Steve Rae & Joni Lanphear.

Department Heads: Dan Lindley, Town Administrator; Richard Keith, Chief of Police; Mary Ann Wilson, Town Clerk/Treasurer; Carol Bradley, Finance Director; Nathan Pickard, EMS Department Chief & Denny Digregorio, Fire Chief.

Guests: Shawn Goodell, JJ Staples, Eric Dodge, Corey Boisvert & Graham Govoni.

Bob Beeman called the Selectboard meeting to order at 6:00PM

### **I. AGENDA CHANGES OR ADDITIONS**

1. None

### **II. NEW BUISNESS**

Dan explained that the Selectboard had advised him to come up with a total budget that has no more than a 2% increase and present it to them. This has been done after meeting with department heads and Carol and making adjustments. At the end of each department's detailed budget, there is a list of what changes Dan made to the department budgets for the Selectboard to see what was originally requested and what Dan changed.

#### **1. Police Department Proposed FY 16/17 Budget:**

Richard Keith, Chief of Police discussed the budget changes that had been done. Most changes were to utilities. They have been decreased due to better fuel prices. Richard mentioned that the State is asking everyone to move toward digital communications instead of the analog we have now. Digital is more confidential. Any equipment in the future will not be able to be paid with DEA forfeiture funds. This will increase spending in the future as there is no future income stream from DEA funds.

#### **2. Fire Department Proposed FY 16/17 Budget:**

Denny Digregorio, Fire Chief, Shawn Goodell, Assistant Chief, and JJ Staples, 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Chief discussed the budget changes that had been done. The roof was replaced and the soffits fixed this year. We still need to do some safety upgrades that were brought up by a VOSHA inspection. Denny estimated the cost at about \$4,000. The major increases were in payroll, training, equipment and medical exams. The reasons for these increases are in direct relation to the increase in volunteers. We are doing SCBA bottle replacements. Masks are \$500.00 each and will need to be replaced in the future. Denny asked Shawn to discuss the new fire truck purchase. The new truck would replace the 1988 Sutphen Tower Truck and

the 1995 Freightliner Pumper truck. Finance options were also discussed. Brian asked if there were any other large purchases the Fire Department would need in the future. Denny said that we would need to replace the Rescue Truck, but probably not until FY 19/20. Carol will put this in the Capital Budget for the future.

**3. EMS Department Proposed FY 16/17 Budget:**

Nathan Pickard, EMS Chief and Corey Boisvert, Assistant Chief discussed that the biggest changes were in personnel and equipment. If the board votes to increase ambulance rates to bring them in line with neighboring towns, some of the increase in expenses would be offset by this revenue. Dan discussed that in the past years we have tried to gradually bring the rate we charge Elmore up to current rates so their budget would not see a big hit. We have budgeted to increase Elmore more this year. We would ask for \$25,000. This is still not high enough for the going rate of service per capita. This income would also help offset expenses. Dan will talk to Elmore if the board approves this. \$30,000 was put in the budget for a new heart rate monitor system. The current ones we have can no longer be certified. Our power stretchers are also at end of life and won't be able to be certified in the near future. Much of the supplies were also out dated and needed to be replaced which was a big cost this year. The increase in calls and lack of volunteers were discussed. In the proposed budget, we would hire 2 new full time employees and a part time employee to cover calls. Contracting with NEMS was also discussed. Nathan is going to look at the schedule and see if there is something further he can do to cut expenses.

**Motion made by Brian Kellogg, seconded by Joni Lanphear adjourn at 9:25PM. Motion carried. (4/0)**

Respectfully submitted and filed this 17th day of November 2015  
Tina Sweet, Scribe

**Please note all minutes are in draft form and are subject to approval at the next Selectboard meeting.**