

MINUTES

The Finance Committee for the Town of Montville met at 6:30 p.m. in Room 204 at the Montville Town Hall on May 20, 2009.

Members present: Billy Caron, Gary Murphy and John Geary.

Also present: Theresa Fafard, Finance Director and Councilor Candy Buebendorf, Ed Radgowski and Rosetta Jones.

Billy Caron called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. He also led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment - none

The committee met with Jim Butler, the Park & Recreation Director. He explained that the only grants his department is eligible for are Walking Trails Grants and Open Space Grants. He feels that \$3,000 should not be cut from the budget for the medical person at the summer camp because it is a safety concern. No new staff has been hired for the summer camp. The fee for summer camp has been increased from \$10/week to \$20/week. In the past, the fees have covered 60% of the director and secretary's salary. Murphy asked if the secretary position could be cut to part time. Butler stated that he needed a full time secretary. Area towns have from three to six full time employees in the recreation department. Montville has two. Murphy asked how many camp counselors and children enrolled. There are 35 counselors, down by eight from last year, and 200 children. They are required to have one counselor per nine children under the age of six and one counselor per twelve children over the age of six. Butler suggested closing Fair Oaks School as a way to save money. He feels that one of the schools could be used for events.

The committee unanimously approved the following:

10310-51141 Human Resource-add \$30,000 to hire a full time person. (Murphy/Geary)

10340-52045 Legal Land Use Matters-reduce this \$30,000 because the Town Planner will be using a different attorney than the town. (Caron/Murphy)

10370-51075 Town Hall PT Clerical-reduce this \$5,000 because the town will only be hiring one person to work in various departments this summer. (Murphy/Geary)

10370-53004 Training and Conferences-reduce this \$500. The committee does not feel this line should be funded based on the fact there have not been any expenditures in prior years. (Geary/Murphy)

10440-52054 IT Hardware-removed cost of mail server which was \$9,500. (Murphy/Geary)

10570-51056 Registrar Clerk- position removed from budget which is a reduction of \$18,165. (Caron/ Geary)

10930-51061 Building Inspector- position removed from budget which is a reduction of \$47,215. (Caron/ Geary)

10930-53024 Reference Material-reduced by \$400 to \$0. The building inspector had previously explained that he did not need these funds next year. (Caron/Geary)

10930-54000 Equipment-reduced \$600. The building inspector had previously explained that he only needed \$600 next year. (Caron/Geary)

10950-53051 Board of Education-The committee funded this line at 1% over last year's budget, which is an increase of \$67,555 over the Mayor's proposal. They have concerns that this budget is underfunded and the BOE will not be able to meet their salary obligations. (Murphy/Geary)

The committee discussed possibly eliminating the Asst Dog Warden position. It was felt that there needs to be someone to fill in when the Dog Warden is not available. There was also discussion about the family counseling through the Youth Services department. Murphy will talk to the Youth Services Director to see if there is a need. If there is not, it may be removed from the 2010-11 budget. The committee asked the superintendent if it was feasible for Park and Recreation to use one of the schools instead of Fair Oaks. His concern was that there would have to be proper supervision, which has been a problem in the past.

The following are the adjustments made to the Mayor's budget recommended to the Town Council by the Finance Committee:

Department	Description	Code	Increase (Decrease)
Mayor	Human Resource	10310-51141	30,000
Legal Services	Land Use Matters	10340-52045	(30,000)
Town Hall/Central Service	Part-Time Clerical	10370-51075	(5,000)
Town Hall/Central Service	Training & Conferences	10370-53004	(500)
Information Technology	Hardware	10440-52054	(9,500)
Registrars	Registrar Clerk	10570-51056	(18,165)
Building Inspector	Building Inspector	10930-51061	(47,215)
Building Inspector	Reference Materials	10930-53024	(400)
Building Inspector	Equipment	10930-54000	(600)
Board of Education	Board of Education	10950-53051	67,555
Total			13,825

The Finance Director will send the impact of the changes to the Town Council.

The Budget Meeting will be held on May 28, 2009 at 6 pm. Dave Erwin thanked the committee for the increase to the BOE budget.

Motion to adjourn by Murphy; seconded by Geary. Motion passed unanimously.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Attest: _____
Theresa Fafard, Finance Director