

Town of Montville Finance Committee

Special Meeting Minutes for

March 10, 2014

4:00 p.m. Room 203

Laura Tanner called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. She also led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Joe Jaskiewicz, Tom McNally, Mayor Ron McDaniel and Finance Director Terry Hart.

Jaskiewicz moved, second by McNally, to approve the minutes of the 2/25/14 meeting

Agenda Items as follows:

The committee reviewed the Public Works 2014-15 Budget and capital request. Hart explained that the line item for salaries can be reduced by about \$39,000. This is for the bus driver that is funded through the Sr. Center budget. Currently, the PW Dept is down three people. There was also discussion regarding the custodial needs at the Public Safety Building. There is an increase in maintenance for some of the town buildings for bathroom flooring, lights and gutters. The committee suggested changing the line titled Tree Warden to Tree Removal. There is also an increase in line for Tires. The pay loader needs new tires and they cost \$9,000. Bourdeau requested \$700,000 for road paving. Hart explained that currently the State is estimating to fund the Town Aid Road Grant for \$326,633. This will reduce amount the town will need to contribute to \$273,367. There are several trucks that need replacement. The committee also discussed the safety upgrades for Desjardins Park. There is \$4,800 in the CIP for the demolition of a water tank. This is under \$5,000 so it is not considered a capital item. This will be put into the maintenance budget.

Lt. Bunnell and RST Martinez were present to review the Police 2014-15 Budget and capital request. Bunnell explained that he currently has 23 officers and is requesting to add three in his 2014-15 budget. The training line has increased due to the State charging for LEC which it did not do in the past. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the need for a full time custodian at the public safety building. Bunnell indicated that he needs someone dedicated to that building for at least 4 hours per day. It was suggested to have the custodian start at 6:00 a.m. There is a line for maintenance of the public safety building in the Public Works and the Public Safety Building budgets. The committee suggested moving \$1,000 from Maintenance and Upkeep (10820-53029) to Building Maintenance (10890-52011). The Building Maintenance line (10890-52011) will be funded at \$3,000. They also recommended moving \$4,000 from Building Maintenance (10890-5211) to Maintenance of Police Complex (10910-53101) in the Public Works budget. Bunnell requested three new equipped vehicles, funding for a police boat and funding for an impound lot. McNally asked if the Gardner Lake Authority could contribute to the cost of the boat.

Peter Bushway and Scott Lavallie reviewed the Park and Recreation 2014-15 Budget and capital request. Jaskiewicz asked why the holiday parade was funded at \$500 when only \$315 was spent last year. Bushway explained that the parade will be advertised in the paper more and next year they will give out rewards. The new position of Part Time Recreation Programmer was discussed. This person would create new programs. There is a new line for Facility Repair/Improvement. This is for replacing tennis nets, fence protection, slides and swings. The committee felt this belonged in the Equipment line (10730-53076). The Fair Oaks Community Center will be funded by a grant. There was discussion of possibly doing the multi-use trails in phases. Bushway also expressed the need to fund for land acquisition for fields.

Remarks from the Public

Wills Pike, Pheasant Run, commented on several items discussed. He felt the public works department has done a good job with the removal of trees. He feels there should not be bottled water at the Public Safety Building. He also questioned why this building is so filthy. Currently Sterling Superior picks up the trash at the PSB. He feels that one of the custodians can take it directly to the transfer station. He supports the funding for paving. He said Black Ash is in need of repair. He stated that the police need new cars and all the vehicles in town should be looked at for replacement. He feels that police overtime should be tracked closer.

Carol Higham, Secretary for the Park and Rec Dept, feels that the secretary line should be increased to full time and not fund the part time recreation programmer. Based on the job descriptions, the office can be run efficiently with a full time secretary and the recreation director. That office is the only one with a part time secretary. Jaskiewicz asked if she could do the work of the part time recreation programmer. She stated that she could.

Scott Lavallie, Old Colchester Road, supports the part time recreation programmer to have the department run efficiently. Since Peter has started they have added 26 new programs.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Theresa Hart, Director of Finance