

Town of Montville Finance Committee

Special Meeting Minutes for

November 5, 2012

5:30 p.m. Room 102

Gary Murphy called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. He also led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Candy Buebendorf, Rosetta Jones and Finance Director Terry Hart.

Remarks from the Public: Kevin Fritch of Morgan Street feels there were problems with last year's Board of Education budget and hopes that they are addressed during the next budget process. He doesn't feel the BOE should spend \$3 mil in the last two weeks of the fiscal year. He feels that the BOE policies should be reviewed especially regarding the competitive bid process and line item transfers. Murphy explained that the item regarding the BOE on the agenda has been removed pending further information from the BOE.

Minutes: Buebendorf moved, second by Jones, to approve the minutes of the 7/31/12 and 8/21/12 meetings. Motion passed.

Agenda Items as follows:

The committee accepted the 2013 meeting schedule as submitted. Meetings will be the last Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. in Room 203.

Hart informed the committee of a prescription discount program offered by CCM. It is for any resident that is uninsured or underinsured. Several towns have joined this program. Hart will have the attorney review the contract and present it at the next council meeting.

There was discussion regarding the 2013-14 Budget Schedule. Buebendorf explained that she feels it isn't fair that the public only has three minutes to make remarks and the BOE can make a twenty minutes presentation. She suggested the presentation be done separately and no presentation be made at the public hearing. The committee would like to meet with department heads in January to discuss their needs. Hart will confirm the following dates with the BOE:

April 23, 2013 Town Budget Public hearing. April 24, 2013 BOE Budget Public Hearing. May 22, 2013 Budget Town Meeting.

The committee discussed the Town Purchasing Policy. It was agreed that the current thresholds are too low and the policy needs updating. Hart submitted information for the committee to review. She will also forward information from the Town Planner.

Remarks from the Public

Wils Pike, Pheasant Run, stated that he feels the Chairman of the BOE should make the budget presentation not the Superintendent. He feels that the meaning of "encumbrance" needs to be clarified. He feels the BOE is not utilizing encumbrances properly. He would like to see the town and BOE budget be voted on separately. He also feels the BOE should include capital items in their budget and present these items to the town.

Kevin Fritch, 12 Morgan Street, expressed concerns about the BOE policy on transferring funds. He feels the policy for transferring funds is in the event of an emergency. He questioned if the \$3 mil encumbered was for emergency.

Buebendorf stated that she felt the meeting with the Town of Mansfield was very helpful in considering merging the Town and BOE finance functions. She is very excited about that. She hopes to have better communication and a good relationship with the BOE. Jones also supported the idea of consolidation with the BOE and the Town. She thanked Mr. Fritch and Mr. Pike for their input.

Buebendorf moved, second by Jones, to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Motion passed.

Theresa Hart, Director of Finance