

Town of Montville Finance Committee

Special Meeting Minutes for

May 18, 2017

5:00 P.M.

Room 203

Councilor Longton called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. He also led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Councilors Tanner, Pollard, May, Rogulski, Jaskiewicz and Caron (5:45 pm). Mayor McDaniel and Finance Director Hart were also present.

Councilor Tanner moved, second by Councilor Pollard, to approve the minutes of the 5/15/17 meeting. Motion passed.

Remarks from the Public: None

Discussion of the 2017-18 Budget:

Fire Departments: Fire Chiefs Truex (Chesterfield), Turner (Montville), Murphy (Oakdale) and Giangrasso (Mohegan) were present to discuss their budgets. The committee discussed the purchase of the Oakdale pumper truck. Currently the plan is to finance it along with other Town vehicles. The Chiefs reviewed the NFPA requirements for replacement of gear which is every 10 years. Chief Murphy informed the committee that he has put in for a grant for this. The Chiefs explained what they need most is manpower/volunteers. They expressed concern that if they don't get more volunteers the Town may have to hire additional paid firefighters. There was a lengthy discussion about the funds received from ambulance calls. The Chiefs explained that they are able to offset their individual budgets with this money. They are able to buy equipment and make repairs to their buildings without having to ask for additional Town funding.

Park & Recreation: Director Peter Bushway and Chairman Ryan Hartman were present to review their budget. They explained that the Commission did not raise the fees for Summer Camp because they felt people could not afford it. There was a discussion regarding scholarships. Bushway explained no one has been turned away because of not being able to pay. Care for Kids and DCF also help pay for children to attend that cannot afford it. He also explained that he has budgeted for two additional counselors. This will allow him to increase the number of children attending camp from 200 to 220. There is a 10 to 1 ratio for children to counselor. His budget includes 22 counselors.

Remarks from the Public:

Wills Pike stated that he feels the Chairman of the Finance Committee should articulate to the Fire Chiefs what he would like to know. He likes the idea of a formal request in writing to the Chiefs to discuss a revenue stream. He also supports the \$6,000 increase for P&R camp counselors. He feels it's a good investment and many families use this service.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 PM.

Theresa Hart, Director of Finance