

CHARLEMONT FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting: March 6, 2010

Present: Richard Filoramo, Ted Willard, Amy Wales, Camille White,
Selectman Winston Healy

Absent: Norma Lynch

1. Minutes of February 6, 2010 were approved and signed.
2. Mail: T. Willard has accepted an invitation from Senator Stanley Rosenberg to attend Franklin and Hampshire COGS' Municipal Conference on March 27, 2010.
3. New Business:
 - a. The Committee met with Highway Superintendent Gordon Hathaway who noted that some line item titles on the budget sheet will be eliminated, changed or combined for purposes of simplification. Each line item was discussed as the Committee asked questions.
 - b. Dana Johnson, Ambulance Director, met with the Committee for purposes of discussing the Ambulance budget. As each line item was discussed, it was agreed that Ambulance Miscellaneous item would be eliminated and added to Ambulance Supplies. D. Johnson stated Ambulance Contracted Services could be reduced as more in-house training is being done. It was determined that another effort should be made to obtain information from the present ambulance billing service. If unsuccessful, it would be time to seek the services of another billing agency. D. Johnson reported on the status of the new ambulance as well as regional ambulance services.
 - c. The Committee discussed the Fire Department budget with Ken Hall, Fire Chief. A Committee member asked about the condition of the vehicles and he replied that all were in reasonably good shape. As all line items were discussed, it was noted Miscellaneous has been eliminated and also the Phone/Computer line item because of the new Town-wide phone system. He also stated that recent house fires will result in having to replace expensive equipment which was lost and he will submit further information relating to contracted services and propane. K. Hall informed the Committee that the Fire Department Association has begun fundraising efforts to secure a thermal imaging unit which would have been helpful during two house fires. When a Committee member mentioned a recent incident in another town, he stated that fire hoses had previously been safe-guarded from accidentally falling off the fire truck by secure netting.

4. Old Business:

- a. R. Filoramo, FinCom Assistant
- b. C. White, Inventory
- c. W. Healy, Benefits Policy, etc.
- d. Investment Policy, etc.

5. Other:

- a. R. Filoramo asked the Secretary to inform the Executive Secretary to carry forward on the budget sheets all salary line items until new salary figures are received.
- b. A. Wales asked that Health Insurance Policy be added to Old Business for discussion.
- c. The next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, 9:00 a.m., April 17, at Town Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 Noon

Respectfully submitted,

Camille C. White, Secretary

(This document is to be considered a draft until approved and signed by the Finance Committee.)

