Town of Littleton Budget Committee Meeting December 7, 2023 - Fire House Meeting Minutes

Littleton Budget Committee: Art Bisenti, Diane Cummings, John Goodrich, Steve Kelley, Mary Menzies, John Piette, Dan Stearns

Town Officials: Lori Bolasevich (Finance Director), Roger Emerson (SB), Carrie Gendreau (SB), Jim Gleason (Town Manager), Linda MacNeil (SB); Chad Miller (Fire Chief), Ray Bowler (Fire Dept.), James Richardson (Fire Dept.) Public: Rudy Gelsi, David McClure

Committee Chair Diane Cummings called the meeting to order at 5:02 pm.

- Minutes of the 11/30/23 meeting were reviewed. Motion to approve as submitted (AB); seconded (DS); passed 7/0.
- Minutes of the 11/16/23 meeting were approved with the additional wording regarding the purchase of a new tractor by the Parks and Recreation department. Motion to approve (AB); seconded (DS); passed 7/0.

Fire Department's operating budget and Warrant Articles 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 were reviewed.

Fire Chief Chad Miller presented an overview of the Fire and EMS operations.

- The current staffing schedule consists of four 24-hour shifts with each employee working every fourth day at an average of 42 hours per week (overtime is paid only at ≥ 45 hours per week).
- Employees are cross trained as both fire fighters and EMT's. Extensive training is required to qualify and to remain certified for EMT's.
- Operations are being expanded to cover Franconia's EMS needs.

John Goodrich and David McClure spoke about their research into area EMS operations and the need for future regionalization initiatives.

Due to the lateness of the meeting, agenda item IV (Consensus Vote - Police Department Operating Budget) was not discussed and will be moved to the 12/14/2023 meeting.

Diane Cummings expressed her concerns about the combined impact of the proposed Town and School budgets on the tax rate.

Parking Lot Items:

 Discussion at the 10/19/23 meeting of petitioned warrant articles and whether to ask for presentations from the organizations and to vote on each or to abstain. The budget committee is required to vote on any warrant article with a tax impact. This still needs to be decided.

Upcoming Meetings:

The 12/14/23 meeting will be at the Community Center.

Motion to adjourn (AB); second (JP); passed 7/0 Meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm

Respectfully submitted, *Mary Menzies* Recording Secretary