

## Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes 3/16/2016

Room 124 @ Town Hall

Present was: Dave Benton, Pat Snead, Peg Drisko-Johnson, Jim Tomaszewski, Arthur Frontczak and Susan Jacobson. Lisa Keating arrived @ 7:25 left at 8:10 PM.

Dave Benton called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM. Dave Benton said this meeting is being videotaped.

The DPW will be presenting their budget for as well as Water and Sewer. Bob McGhee presented his budgets to the Advisory Committee for review.

The Fire Department will follow the DPW and the Police Budget will be discussed next week. Chief Stone is on medical leave.

The Committee will run through the Warrant and approve minutes as well.

Bob McGhee reviewed the Department of Public Works budget. Bob also provided a list of capital items. Bob presented a summary of the DPW Budget for the Committees review. See sheets for specific details filed with minutes. Bob spoke about the small wastewater treatment and they said they have figured out a budget to maintain it.

Pat asked about why the cemetery expenses have tripled and the grounds number increased \$15,000. Bob provided explanation for those increases. They are looking for a \$21,000 increase in highway \$5800 in the FY16 this year they are asking for \$10,000 for overtime. Each year they have had to pay that because a position may have been open or someone may have retired. The additional expense in Highway is the cleaning of catch basins. We have over 2,000 catch basins. They should be cleaned twice a year but we are not able to. The catch basins are emptied at the DPW and the material is at its maximum. It must be disposed of as hazardous waste. The cost to do this is \$25,000 or a \$7,000 increase from last year. Bob reviewed each line item with the Committee.

The good news on water is that the leaks have been captured and are not having to use outside contractors this year. They have had good luck with the enterprise account. There have been no increases in water rates at this year. The retained earnings are a bit over one million. Bob said it was a little over \$60,000 five years ago. Bob said the bad news is that we are running out of water. We have two 1 million gallon tanks. Building retained earnings is going to provide the money to find and build a well.

Dave asked if there was a time frame on a new well source. Bob said we have drilled on three sites and hit ledge. They started with town owned property. They have a few more sites but they have not had any success yet.

Chief Bushnell presented the Fire Department Budget there is six year rotation for two sets of gear. Dave said his numbers are fairly consistent. Jack has been very supportive but at times he is probably a bit frustrated but if you look in terms of development and overall responses it tends to be cumulative. Their calls are really everyday living they are pushing 1700 calls a year. Equipment wise he has discussed with Jack because of the way they purchased the apparatus they will be reaching a critical level with replacements needed. They will need to replace the breathing apparatus they are hoping to get federal funding for that if not it will run the town close to \$50,000. Cole said that Marie Simpson was transferred to the Fire Department it has allowed the teams to do more shift training. Marie's involvement has been a tremendous asset she is in charge of the ambulance billing, and state reporting of paramedics each month as well as the day to day activity. Her salary is a big bump in the budget it is over \$50,000. Dave asked if we purchased a new ambulance this year. Cole said that was put into service one month ago.

Cole said moving forward that they are anxiously waiting to have a building of their own to put all of the assets under one roof and a regional dispatch center.

Cole said that Firefighters that are trained in Norfolk are highly sought by other communities.

Pat asked why our well trained folks leave to go elsewhere. Cole said there are incentives in other communities that he does not know how they can afford to provide them. They are similar to the Police Quinn Bill. Norfolk did add some things to the contract this year, some overtime opportunities and they want Firefighter/Paramedics to live in our community or a nearby our community.

A motion was made by Pat Snead to approve the minutes of 6/29/2015, 10/6/2015 and 3/2/2016. It was seconded by Peg Drisko and **so voted. All were in favor.**

A motion was made by Arthur Frontczak to approve article K. It was seconded by Pat Snead and **so voted. All were in favor.**

A motion was made by Pat Snead to approve article M. It was seconded by Jim Tomaszewski and **so voted. All were in favor.**

A motion was made by Arthur Frontczak to approve article N. It was seconded by Pat Snead and **so voted. All were in favor.**

A motion was made by Arthur Frontczak to approve article O. It was seconded by Jim Tomaszewski and so voted. All were in favor.

A motion to adjourn was made by Arthur Frontczak. It was seconded by Pat Snead and so voted. All were in favor. Meeting adjourned @ 8:20 PM.