

Board of Selectmen
Chaplin, Connecticut
Thursday, February 25, 2015
Special Meeting
Chaplin Town Hall

MINUTES

Members Present: William Rose, IV and Irene Schein

Absent: John Smith

Others Present: None

1. Call to Order

William Rose called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

2. Annual Budget Workshop

Bill Rose reported the following on the budget:

- There will be an increase of approximately 9.75% for the insurance budget when the Town moves to ConnectiCare medical insurance for employees.
- CIRMA Insurance – waiting on quotes
- Paramedic Budget – still in negotiations, WINCOG created an ad hoc committee to meet with Windham Hospital to standardize the contract. The Department of Health is reviewing and the BOS should have these numbers by March 9, 2015.
- Bank service charges were increased by \$100
- Flag Budget – Mr. Rose stated that every year funds are put aside for a new flag due to the damage from the elements. Mr. Rose found a company that has a flag that will last about a year. It is taken down in the winter, around January to preserve it.
- Legal fees – town council retainer will remain at \$9000.
- Secretary Budget – in the event the Administrative Assistant is unavailable and a substitute is needed.
- Conference/Dues – increased in order to send the Administrative Assistant to classes as needed.
- Legal Notices – decreased due to the new ordinance that was passed allowing only a summary of ordinances to be published saving significant costs. There is also pending approval of Town Meeting notices not having to be published but can be posted on the website. This will save funds also.
- Software – decrease but the Town will be upgrading the server application from version 2003 to 2012.
- Electricity – decreased due to better price on kilowatts.
- Telephone – decreased.
- Annuity – increased due to more employees eligible to join.
- Police Protection – Mr. Rose reported that there is a possibility that municipalities will lose grant money which consists of 30% of our Police Protection costs. Discussion ensued regarding the program and if it is cost effective for the Town for the services being received. The Board of Selectmen agreed that it should be an

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agenda item for the next meeting for further discussion. Resident feedback is important to determine if the program is worth the cost.

- Public works – according to Mr. Rose the budget may increase. Fuel is on track this year but prices are low this year. Salt going up for next year but sand is ok. Most of DPW line items are the same.
- Sanitation- small increase approximately \$3000.
- Transfer Station – hauling prices have increased and credits are not high. Disposal of household chemicals is up a little.

3. Discuss CON SERV Project – Department of Public Works

Bill Rose reported that the outdoor lights failed on the Town garage prompting this energy project. The fixtures will be changed to energy savings ones, no costs upfront. Total cost will be \$4333.00 to include lights and labor. The fund incentive is \$1377.00 so total cost to us is \$2956.00. They estimate \$811 of energy savings per year which will bring us to \$210 approx in the black. The program will cost \$61.57 monthly payment, 0% finance charge. Irene made a motion that the Board of Selectmen approve the program and the First Selectman sign the contract with CON SERV project # CT15-86979 to upgrade town garage facility. Bill Rose seconded the motion. All in favor.

4. Discuss Clean Energy Community Program

Bill explained project put out by Eversource. For every 100 energy efficiency points earned, the Town received \$5000 in a Bright Idea grant to be used for energy efficiency projects. We are at 98 points today and should have 100 soon. If the pledge is signed to reduce energy costs by 20% annually, the Town qualifies for the point system for grant money. The Library project that was done and the one for DPW will go towards the threshold to put this grant towards another energy project. Irene made a motion for the Board of Selectmen to approve and the First Selectman to sign onto program with the Clean Energy Community Program with Eversource. Bill Rose seconded the motion

5. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 6:54pm