

**Town of Jaffrey
Budget Committee
January 7, 2021**

Members Present: Peter Maki, Frank Sterling, Norman Langevin, Sam Greene, Kathy Batchelder, Robert Schaumann, Charlie Turcotte

Staff Present: Town Manager Frederick, Finance Director FitzGerald, Fire Chief Chamberlain, Police Chief Muilenburg (via Zoom), Lt. Chris LaBrecque (via Zoom), Kevin Chamberlain (via Zoom), Administrative Assistant Zola

Others Present: Via Zoom: Sam LaFortune, David Hedman JRMA

MEETING OPENED: 6:00p.m.

OLD BUSINESS: None

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

12-3-2020 amended minutes were distributed.

1-5-2021 minutes will be available at the next meeting (1-13-2021)

DEPARTMENT PRESENTATIONS:

JAFFREY-RINDGE MEMORIAL AMBULANCE – Sam LaFortune, Dave Hedman

The current staffing is at 25 part-time/per diem staff, there are no full-time staff.

They have lost \$70,000 over the past 2-years, they are hoping the revenue recovery will get better. This is why they are requesting more funding. This year they have had an increase in recovery. Chief Chamberlain asked if they had a capital plan for ambulance purchase. Sam Lafortune explained that there is a CRF established and will be funded in 3-years for a new ambulance purchase.

On a motion by Maki, seconded by Turcotte, the Jaffrey-Rindge Memorial Ambulance budget in the amount of \$41,000 was tentatively approved (7-0).

FIRE DEPARTMENT – David Chamberlain

TM Frederick reviewed the 2021 changes.

Chief Chamberlain currently has 19 members, with 3 possible recruits on probation, he would like more staffing.

Calls are down to 325 from last year. They have had many mutual aid calls due to low staffing ratios in all the neighboring towns.

Trainings, PPE and labor hours are down also.

There is \$42,000 remaining due to Covid reimbursement from the State.

Chief Chamberlain is comfortable with his budget request.

On a motion by Schaumann, seconded by Batchelder, the Fire Department Budget in the amount of \$380,200 was tentatively approved (7-0).

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT – David Chamberlain

This budget was increased due to Covid-19 management.

On a motion by Greene, seconded by Turcotte, the Emergency Management Budget in the amount of \$63,754 was tentatively approved (7-0).

POLICE DEPARTMENT – Todd Muilenburg

TM Frederick reviewed the 2021 changes.

Staffing is currently down by 3, but 1 is returning in March/April.

Covid-19 has changed procedures and call are down.

They have completed training in Political-Social reform and use of force.

They have had advancement in the department, Chris LeBrecque to Lieutenant and Tom Bishop to Sargent.

Of note, domestic violence calls have been down.

There is one Body Camera that isn't being used at this time, however all the officers have audio recordings that can be used. Body camera data storage and equipment is expensive. There is the Harold Turner Fund available for non-budgeted items. Greene suggested looking into grants for future year requests. Chief Muilenburg will look into grants that may be available.

Retirement amount is for a year with 6-months to cover the contract time.

On a motion by Schaumann, seconded by Batchelder, the Police Budget in the amount of \$1,524,698 was tentatively approved (7-0).

PROSECUTION DEPARTMENT – Rick Carpenter

2% COLA is not reflected.

Numbers of cases are down this year, but they are doing telephonic hearings and trials have been in person.

Rent is stable.

Both positions are part-time, so there is no line item for Retirement.

On a motion by Greene, seconded by Turcotte, the Prosecution Budget in the amount of \$117,111 was tentatively approved (7-0).

ANIMAL CONTROL – Todd Muilenberg

The Police Department handles animal control, they do call Rindge PD or the Humane Society for kenneling help.

On a motion by Greene, seconded by Maki, the Animal Control Budget in the amount of \$625 was tentatively approved (7-0).

MEETING ADJOURNED: On a motion from Greene, seconded by Turcotte, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51pm.

The next Budget Committee Meeting – Wednesday, January 13th @ 6pm at the Jaffrey Fire Station.

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