

**TOWN OF RAYMOND BUDGET/FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 5, 1998**

ATTENDANCE: Rolf Olsen, Chairman; Jane Jordan; Phil Hamilton; Howard Williams; Royce Moore; Ralph Bartholomew; Louise Lester; Chris Champagne, Co-Fire Chief; and Nathan Poore, Town Manager.

CALL TO ORDER: Rolf Olsen called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm at the Town Hall.

1. Approve minutes of previous meetings.

MOTION: Royce Moore motioned to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by Phil Hamilton.

VOTE: 5 in favor (Olsen, Hamilton, Williams, Moore, Bartholomew) 2 abstained (Jordan, Lester)

2. Review CIP

DISCUSSION: Mr. Poore explained that the CIP is planned to increase by \$10,000 through year 2003; \$25,000 in years 2004-2007; and \$35,000 years \$2008 to 2011. He said that they are moving ahead the purchase of a one ton and sweeper because the truck is being used more than anticipated. Mr. Williams suggested that they look to a heavier duty truck like International Harvester so it will last longer. Mr. Poore said that he would like to pay off the chipper when the FEMA storm money comes in. There may be a balance due with the FEMA money which would come from the budget. He indicated that the Town Hall improvements are to be delayed one year except for air conditioners for the main meeting room and a small unit for the conference room. Chris Champagne, co-fire chief, said that they would like to replace Utility 7 which has proven to be a useful truck. It is used to carry basic equipment, be used for Rescue first response, and also to scout locations for the larger fire trucks. This expense would be in 2005 at an estimated cost of \$70,000.

3. Old business

- a. Plowing route

DISCUSSION: Mr. Moore asked to discuss the new plowing routes being taken on by the Town and asked why it was going beyond the original idea of Martin Heights and Egypt Road. Mr. Poore said that P&K didn't feel it was enough to lower their contract price therefore the Town would do the Cape Road as well. Mr. Hamilton felt that Frye Island should pay something toward the upkeep of the Cape Road in that it is their only way to the Ferry Landing. Mrs. Lester noted that there is land belonging to Gray at the end of the Gore Road which also uses Raymond's roads to access that land. Mr. Hamilton felt that since the State is supposed to maintain a road to a township, they should help with the expense of the Cape Road for Frye Island now that it is a town.

- b. District 1

DISCUSSION: Mr. Olsen asked about the rehab of the District 1 building. Mr. Poore said that a study would be done this year as to whether new construction is needed or renovation. Mr. Williams asked if there is any grant money available for this purpose. Mr. Poore said he would inquire but didn't know of any. Mr. Champagne said that they don't need anything fancy, just safe.

c. Video equipment

DISCUSSION: Mr. Poore explained that until the contract with Time Warner is signed, we won't know exactly what we will have.

4. New business

DISCUSSION: Mr. Poore said that there is presently \$1.1 to \$1.5 million in surplus. He would be comfortable with \$1.3 million. The auditor would like to see 3 months total of expenses as a backup value for surplus. Mr. Poore continued that usually surplus is 5% to 25% of the taxes and the usual is 12% to 15%. He said that the auditor felt that because Raymond was a stable community and collected its taxes readily it could go to 15%. However, Mr. Poore said he didn't want to get into tax anticipation notes to be able to pay its bills. Mr. Poore suggested a mil rate of 14.32. Year 1997-1998 was 13.9.

MOTION: Howard Williams motioned to accept the CIP as proposed. Seconded by Ralph Bartholomew.

VOTE: Unanimous.

MOTION: Louise Lester motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Jane Jordan.

VOTE: Unanimous.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be with the Selectmen on November 16, 1998 at 7:00 pm at the Town Hall.

ADJOURNMENT: Rolf Olsen adjourned the meeting at 8:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise H. Lester
Secretary