

TOWN OF RAYMOND
BUDGET/FINANCE COMMITTEE

Minutes
Monday, May 21, 2001

Attendance: Rolf Olsen, Chairman; Louise Murray; Robert Jones; Jane Jordan; Neil Southwick; Ralph Bartholomew; Theresa Skillings; David Knight; David Bois, Superintendent; Denis Morse, Fire Chief; Kathleen Brown, Director Lake Region Development Council; Charles Leavitt, Selectman; Jack Cooper, Dispatch Supervisor; and Don Willard, Town Manager.

Open Meeting: Rolf Olsen opened the meeting at 7:05 pm at the Town Office.

Greet and swear in new members.

Louise Lester swore in the new members: Theresa Skillings and David Knight.

Minutes from previous meeting.

MOTION: Bob Jones motioned to approve the Minutes of March 12, 2001 as written. Seconded by Neil Southwick.

VOTE: 5 in favor (Jones, Olsen, Murray, Jordan, Bartholomew) 3 abstentions (Knight, Skillings, Southwick)

Review and make recommendation on School Renovation article.

DISCUSSION: David Bois explained that the original amount expected for the Jordan-Small School renovation was under the lowest bid by \$79,564.00. He asked that this amount be raised at the Special Town Meeting.

MOTION: Neil Southwick motioned to recommend the adoption of Article 4. Seconded by Bob Jones.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

Review and make recommendation on Fire Station project.

DISCUSSION: Denis Morse reported that this proposal has been under study for 2 1/2 years. He reviewed the history of the project. He said that a quarter of the expense would be in the excavation of an estimated 18,000 yards of fill. He continued that Cumberland County Sheriff's Department is interested in having a substation in the building, which might generate some capital toward the expense of the building. He indicated that the arrangement with Frye Island and Casco might change from mutual aide to automatic aide, which will allow Raymond to charge per call, which presently is \$350 per call. Mr. Willard acknowledged that the inclusion of Cumberland County Sheriff's would be "revenue neutral". Chief Morse continued that during snow storms it is necessary to have personnel living at the stations so that there can be a quick response and so that personnel on duty won't have a problem getting to the station (i.e. accidents). At the District 1 station it is unhealthy for people to stay because of carbon monoxide from the trucks. There also are no facilities such as showers for the personnel to use when coming back from an accident site. And a big issue is not having a place for training. Now the junior fire fighters need training to bring them toward being firemen and finding a suitable place for the training is difficult. Training for new members is also a problem. Mr. Willard noted that the training room in the new building could also be used by the community for other meetings at no charge. Ralph Bartholomew asked about maintenance costs on the new building. Chief Morse replied the construction was to keep maintenance at a minimum i.e. vinyl siding and 6 inch insulation with radiant heat which should be very economical. Chief Morse added that the revenues being brought in by fire/rescue should also cover the cost of the building within 5 years, which is expected to be about \$120,000. He continued saying that the dedicated volunteers in Raymond deserve this building and that there are 10 career fire fighters volunteering their time for which they are paid at their regular city of employment. David Knight noted that the present District 1 building and possibly others in Raymond do not OSHA requirements. Mr. Olsen asked about DEP permits etc. Mr. Willard said that all permits were included in the contract. Mrs. Jordan said that on their tour of other fire stations the most often recommendation was to make it big enough to last a few years. Mr. Southwick felt that this building was long overdue in Raymond. Chief Morse added that the District 1 station could be sold to obtain revenue and that appraisals have shown that it might be worth around \$100,000.

MOTION: Neil Southwick motioned to recommend Article 3. Seconded by David Knight.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

DISCUSSION: There was discussion about the Capital Improvement Plan and how it should be used.

Review and make recommendation on Portland Water District Pipe Line project.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Willard said that Raymond's debt would be \$418,000 but there is a plan to make the project "revenue neutral" if CHIPCO/Embedtech's personal property tax covers the expense of the bond which should be within 5 years. Embedtech has agreed to leave a renewable account in the amount of \$30,000 with Raymond to use should their taxes not meet the amount needed. Other revenue would be gained from the hookups requested by businesses and residences for the next 10 years. These fees would be set and retained by Raymond. Charles Leavitt noted that the Selectmen has asked to go to bid on phase 2 and 3 if it Raymond wants to look to extending the water line.

MOTION: David Knight motioned to recommend Article 5. Seconded by Louise Murray.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

Review Annual meeting date change and implications on budget formulation and schedule.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Olsen noted that if Article 2 passes and the Annual Town Meeting moves to May, the Budget Finance meeting schedule would be changed. If it doesn't pass than they should be having their first organizational meeting in August.

Review and make recommendation on purchase of new Dispatch radio and phone recorder.

DISCUSSION: Jack Cooper reviewed the problems with the radio/phone recorder. Mr. Willard said that this expense could be raised through the CIP Reserve Fund after passage by Town Meeting. Mr. Olsen asked why this item was not included in the CIP. Mr. Cooper relied that the former Town Manager was aware that it would have to be replaced but he didn't include it in the CIP for some unknown reason. It was discussed that the Warrant should have a note saying that this amount would not be raised but taken from the CIP Reserve Account. Mr. Leavitt felt that this should go to bid. Mr. Willard indicated that he has asked Kevin Woodbrey to see if our system can support this in any way and possibly save some cost.

MOTION: Bob Jones motioned to approve and recommend Article 9 changing the wording to read "to see what sum" and to take our "raise". Seconded by Neil Southwick.

ARTICLE 7:

MOTION: Bob Jones motioned to recommend Article 7. Seconded by David Knight.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

ARTICLE 8:

MOTION: Bob Jones motioned to recommend Article 8. Seconded by David Knight.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor.

Old business.

New business.

Selection of chairman for new year.

NOTE: The Budget Finance Committee asked Rolf Olsen to stay on as chairman.

ADJOURNMENT: Rolf Olsen adjourned the meeting at 8:59 pm.

Louise H. Lester

Town Clerk