

Town of Raymond
401 Webbs Mills Road
Raymond, Maine 04071
207-655-4742

Budget/Finance Committee and Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Unclassified Accounts for 2005-2006
Monday, January 13, 2005

Budget/Finance Committee present: Frank McDermott, Acting Chairman; Suzie Brockelbank; Jean Carter; Dennis Cole; and Ralph Bartholomew.

Budget/Finance Committee member absent: Coleen Laprise, Louise Murray, and David Rowe.

Selectmen present: Betty McDermott, Chairman; and Mike Reynolds. McClellan.

Selectmen absent: Ada Brown, Mark Gendron and Christine McClellan.

Staff present: Don Willard, Town Manager; and Elizabeth Cummings, Finance Director.

Others present: No one other than provider representatives.

1. Call to order. Frank McDermott called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at the Town Office.
2. Approval of 2005-2006 Provider Agency Requests.
 - a. Tri-County Mental Health \$2,800 (Info: 188 visits in Raymond)
DISCUSSION: Craig Owens, Bridgton manager, explained that they provide services to people with the most chronic and severe illness. Over the last 4 to 5 years, the shift has been to not just support clients but to help them improve their quality of life. Town funds are critical because the state funds are disappearing. Raymond is funding about where it should be for the services it gets. If the funds aren't there from the town Tri-County has to deny service. They are forming Recovery Groups to help stretch the dollar. There are no other sources for funding for those who can't pay for it themselves. Tri-County gets \$27,000 from the United Way which isn't enough to do the job. Raymond funding will only be used for Raymond residents. Some of the clients are Raymond's school children who need help. He didn't foresee any Raymond residents being turned away.
 - b. Community Health Services \$4,000 (Info: 1,059 visits in Raymond)
DISCUSSION: Amy Kirk, Home Health Visiting Nurses of Southern Maine, explained that they were Community Health Services but have merged with another similar service provider and changed the name. She said that they helped 65 people in Raymond some of whom were people who were released from the hospital but

needed medical help and monitoring. She added that they also have speech therapists, maternal and child visits, teachers of parenting skills, and low weight babies monitoring. She noted that services cost about \$120,000, but they are reimbursed \$114,000 from Medicare insurance. The gap is \$56,000 and she asked for Raymond's share to be \$4,000.

c. PROP \$5,500 (Info: 122 residents helped)

DISCUSSION: Sue Bonnier (sp?) explained that they serve 23 towns in Cumberland County. They are a community action organization which works with low income people. There are 27 programs to help them in five areas of need: home, family, youth, senior, and health. She said that they served 375 people in 150 households in Raymond for a more accurate number. The services they get could be multi-faceted. They help with services or direct people to other service providers. They have professional case workers and para-case workers. Some of their programs are directly federally funded but the social services are not, which they call unrestricted funds. They can help with low interest home improvement loans, fuel assistance, the Headstart Program, the Wick Program, the Foster Grandparents Program, and general social services. They also have the Women's project for alcohol abuse treatment, and wellness programs through the schools. Mr. Bartholomew asked what the value of the unrestricted funds is from the towns. She replied \$118,000 to \$120,000 per year from the various municipalities. Mr. McDermott asked what it would cost Raymond to provide these services. Mr. Willard replied more than \$5,500. Mrs. McDermott said that PROP has always had a very good reputation in Raymond.

d. Southern Maine Agency on Aging \$1,875 (Info: 41 senior residents received meals and 144 received other services)

DISCUSSION: Frank River, director of marketing and development explained that they serve Cumberland and York counties. They provided 1,400 meals to Raymond residents. They have resources for seniors to help with many types of paperwork which is necessary these days. Ninety Raymond residents get their newsletter every other month. Part of their programs are the Family Care Giver, Medicare reimbursement paperwork, Westbrook Housing Authority, RSVP, and volunteers for Mr. Fixit, check writing and bill paying and other business aid for the elderly, and even food purchasing. The Meals on Wheels Program costs \$2.75 per meal but do not necessarily get reimbursed by the recipient. The average charge for a meal is \$1.25. He left their annual report and detailed copies of their budget.

e. Regional Transportation \$2,830 (Info: 20 residents used RT)

DISCUSSION: Chuck Baker explained that they have existed since 1976 and currently have 35 buses and vans with 40 agency drivers. They also have 40 volunteers with cars in the rural areas to transport people. Volunteers have dropped over the years because the reimbursement funds have dropped. The bus in this area has a capacity of 18. They take people on Tuesday to Portland and Thursday to Windham. At this time, 57 individuals use this service. Mr. Bartholomew asked

about funding from other towns. Mr. Baker said that they serve Cumberland County. He added that the general public riders have a fee of \$2 to go to Windham or \$4 to go to Portland. If the person is under 140% of the poverty level, the trip is free or the recipient gives a donation of any amount.

f. Casco Senior Meals \$500 (Info: 223 meals served Raymond seniors)
No representative.

g. Family Crisis Shelter \$1,000 (Info: 20 residents served)
DISCUSSION: Amy Duty (sp?). Ms. Duty said that they serve 65 towns in Cumberland and Sagadahock Counties. They have two emergency shelters in Portland and Bath as well as three support groups in Bridgton, Portland, and Bath. In Portland, they have an outreach advocate. They have a Young Adult program in schools which gives information on teen dating and violence. They also have three apartment buildings for people to live in after they leave shelter housing. They have an Elder abuse advocate which is funded through Anthem Insurance. Mr. Willard said that the sheriff's department says that Raymond does have a need for this service. Mrs. Carter questioned the 35% which is used for administration and fund raising. Ms. Duty answered that amount included the expenses of the shelters and personnel who give the services. The shelter cost is \$114 per night per person and they are filled almost every night. Mr. McDermott noted that their service is 24/7. Mr. Bartholomew felt that small budgets would show a larger percentage for administration because of the balance between cost of administration and amount of income.

h. Raymond Extended Day Care \$3,000 (Info: 75 Raymond children received services)
No representative.

Mrs. McDermott said that every year they have a problem getting this information in on time. Both Mr. Bartholomew and Mr. Reynolds have children using the program. Mr. Reynolds said the Board of Directors are parents and that the program is very structured. The funds are basically payroll and custodial fees. They are inspected separately from the school program and licensed independently by the state. The ratio of adults to students is less than the school's. Their fire marshall requirements are higher than for the school as well. Mrs. McDermott questioned why the amount requested has dropped this year, and why we don't have better financial information. Mr. Reynolds said that the payment policy has changed with delinquent payments being challenged and collected, he also felt that possibly the payments are coming in better than previous years. He didn't think that the fees have changed. Mr. McDermott felt it was a great addition to the town and thought the attributes of the program should be publicized.

i. American Red Cross \$800 (Info: new provider request this year)

DISCUSSION: Josh Barnes explained that they are funded from local people. Their local board of directors is from Portland to the New Hampshire border. They receive revenues from their training courses i.e. CPR and Community Disaster Preparation training. They recorded 509 people in Raymond for Red Cross swimming/water safety training which includes the summer camps. They are very active with the Armed Services emergency services for communication between the soldiers and their families. They are prepared for direct disaster response with financial support, food, and shelter. Bruce Peters, Disaster team leader in Raymond, is an asset to have in their office. They had a balanced budget of about \$300,000. He added that 24 towns donated about \$31,000 last year.

j. Sexual Assault Response Service \$250

DISCUSSION: Coralee Sherman explained that they covered York and Cumberland Counties. They have been in existence for 32 years with a 24-hour hotline staffed by 25 volunteers. They provide support for victims beginning with visits to hospitals, going to court if asked, police department advocacy for the first report of assault and further help getting therapists or whatever they need. They can also arrange for legal guidance. Their work concerns rape, incest, and child or sexual abuse. They provide school programs from the fourth grade on to teach self-protection and awareness. They have a sex offender notification program which can help towns deal with community information methods. They will provide speakers to civic groups for education of their programs. They would like to focus on high school students to make them aware of their personnel rights. They are receiving about 2000 to 2500 calls a year.

DISCUSSION: Mr. McDermott asked if RED and Casco Meals should be asked to attend. Mr. Bartholomew didn't feel it was necessary because they are well known to us. Mrs. Brockelbank asked if they let us know that they wouldn't be here. Mr. Willard replied no. Mr. Bartholomew felt that he would like to have them here but didn't expect any provider to attend every year. Mr. Willard felt that since this was a new form for information gathering, possibly they aren't aware that they should appear. Mrs. Carter didn't feel absence should be a mandatory shutoff.

Mr. Reynolds asked if the Raymond Rec and baseball were a different entity. Mr. Willard replied yes. They appear under a different format. Mr. McDermott felt that they should be involved under this article. Mr. Willard explained that this year some of the requests like the library were represented by their own article. Mrs. Cummings said that this year they are under the Parks budget and are requesting \$4,000. Mr. Willard asked that he receive directive from the Budget/Finance how he is to govern these requests.

Mr. Bartholomew felt that the meeting proved that the money given these agencies definitely is good value to Raymond.

MOTION: Ralph Bartholomew motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Suzie Brockelbank.

VOTE: Unanimous.

ADJOURNMENT: Frank McDermott adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Louise H. Lester
Town Clerk