

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 12, 2015

1. The Weare Finance Committee met at the Town Offices on Thursday 12 Nov at 7pm. Members in attendance were Lori Davis, Matt Whitlock, Bill Anderson, Keith Erf, Rochelle Pitkaniemi, David Recupero, Peter Mennis, Stephen Wallace, and Gregg McDowell. Town Moderator John Foss was also present and had all members sign, to be placed on file, the Town of Weare Code of Ethics.

2. Business. Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Chairman Jack Dearborn and CIP member Stu Richmond were present. Chairman Dearborn presented the CIP projects for this budget cycle for the Parks and Recreation Department and Police Department. Karen Sogner from Parks and Rec and Police Chief Sean Kelly were also present to answer specific questions about each project.

a. Parks and Recreation Requests.

1. Chase Park Renovations (\$27.5K). Project would renovate the current bathhouse with new fixtures and make it ADA compliant. It would also sealcoat and stripe the parking lot and repair an erosion issue to improve beach storm water management.

2. Bolton Field Development (\$80K). Project would include design and construction for a parking project to relieve congestion on game days; currently cars have to park on both sides of the access road for high demand events thus restricting access to the park. The desire is to increase parking to 150 spaces with convenient access to the fields and playground. Project would also expand the soccer field to regulation size and remedy drainage issues.

b. Police.

1. Cruiser Replacement (\$93.5K). Proposal would provide a long range program to rectify maintenance and dependability issues with the existing aging fleet of cruisers. To minimize first year cost impacts the vehicle allowance will be reduced from 9 to 7 vehicles and new vehicles would be leased in lieu of purchased. Five(5) AWD Dodge Chargers would be leased for 3 years to replace 7 vehicles in the existing fleet, the majority of which are 5-7 years old and over 100,000 miles. The first year impact for lease and one time equipment costs is \$93.5K; Expected trade in value of cruisers is \$15K for a net tax impact of \$78K. Years 2 and 3 would result in a tax impact of \$45K each year. At the end of 3 years, vehicles can be purchased for \$1 ea or traded. Warranty on the vehicles would reduce annual cruiser maintenance costs by approximately \$13K. In 3-5 years Chief Kelly recommends a staggered planned replacement program of 1-2 cruisers per year on new leases.

3. Discussion. No action was taken on the above projects. The committee will wait until all department proposals have been presented.

4. Other Business.

a. User Fees. Committee discussed how fees, especially as relates to parks and rec, are handled in the budgetary process. Fees currently collected go back into the general fund. The committee discussed whether it might be more appropriate for these fees to be made available in reserve for parks and rec projects which have historically had difficulty passing as a warrant article.

b. Default Budget. The committee is requesting to obtain the default budget, as currently developed, for review, prior to our next meeting.

5. Adjournment. The committee adjourned at 940pm. Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 19 Nov in the town offices at 7pm to continue to review department CIP projects and the default budget.

Bill Anderson/Secretary