

Kingston Fire District
Finance Committee Meeting
April 23, 2009

Call to Order: Lori Horton called the KFD Finance Committee Meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. Also present were Vern Wyman, Bob Drapeau, Nate Barrington, and Tom Vignali

Minutes Approved

The members present reviewed and approved the minutes of the last meeting, 2/12/09, with a change on pg.2.

Chief's Report:

The Chief reviewed the proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year. Revenue from taxes is predicted to increase at the same rate as the URI contract increase. Other revenue (motor vehicle tax and interest income) are predicted to be down. On the expense side, the Chief's stipend is being decreased and a "senior maintenance coordinator" position is being added. The training coordinator is getting an increase (he is from NYC and is highly experience and effective); the maintenance coordinator stipend is being decreased. There is a plan to phase out the second maintenance coordinator. There is a stipend increase budgeted for the tax collector and treasurer.

In the '08-'09 budget, the revenue from URI increased only 3% but the taxpayers' rate increased by 5%. For this year, both revenue items are projected to increase by 5%.

URI Lease

Vern reported that there is nothing new on the URI lease; the new insurance clause has not been written and there is no plan to do so. He suggested that we write a letter agreement regarding the insurance issue, to stand alone in lieu of a current lease.

Audit Proposals

Tom Vignali has sent the audit RFP for three firms and posted it in two newspapers. There is only one bid, from Braver P.C. (same firm that has been doing the audit for three years). Their price for the past three years has been

\$5200; the new bid is for \$6750/year. The KFD Auditors are expected to recommend acceptance of the Braver bid at the Wardens' meeting tonight.

There was discussion about why there were no other bids received.

URI Report

Vern Wyman reported that URI has received a \$19 million bond to complete all fire and safety improvements recommended by Hughes Associates for auxiliary enterprise facilities.

Next meeting

The next meeting will be at 2:00 p.m. on August 13, 2009.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.