

**HOPE VALLEY/WYOMING FIRE DISTRICT  
996 MAIN STREET  
HOPE VALLEY, RI 02832**

**BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING  
MAY 28, 2015  
7:00 P.M.**

**Those present:** Board Members: Chairman, David Holt, Vice-Chairman, Pasquale DeBernardo, Georgia Ure, Elwood Johnson, Paul Schaarschmidt; Chief, Fred Stanley; District Clerk, Julie Kelley

**Those not present:** Treasurer, Deborah Nicotra; Tax Collector, Susan Bok

This meeting was called to work on the proposed budget for fiscal year July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016.

The meeting commenced and was called to order by Chairperson, David Holt at 7:02 p.m. with a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

The purpose of this meeting is to review the budget with the proposed changes as discussed at the last meeting on May 14, 2015. The following changes were discussed:

The board reviewed the Amount to be raised by Taxes, in the amount of \$740,938.00 reflecting an increase of \$42,684.00 or 5.8% increase over last year's budget. The board then worked on math calculations to try and obtain the new tax rate per thousand. The calculations were just an estimate as the valuations are unknown at this time and are based on last year's figures. The projected calculations reflected an increase in taxes by \$.12 or increase in a tax rate to \$1.22 per thousand.

The budget will be adopted at the Monthly Board Meeting scheduled for June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

The board then reviewed changes in the budget. The following accounts were discussed:

**Gross Wages**

Acct. # 5107, Substitute Maintenance/Driver increased in hourly rate by \$1 to new rate of \$18.00.

Acct. # 5110, Retirement decreased by \$2,666.00.

Acct. # 5111, Custodian, increased to \$50.00 per week from \$45.00.

Acct. # 5300, Blue Cross increased by \$4,059.00, based on an estimate.

Acct. # 5400, FICA is based on a formula, in the future this will have to be broken out and new Acct. #'s added as journal entries.

Add a line item for the Chief's severance benefits in the amount of \$46,739.00.

**Stipend Accounts**

Acct. # 4140, Auditor has been increased in the amount of \$11,500.00 due to changes in state law and the requirements necessary to correct our records prior to a full Audit review.

Acct. # 4250, New Office Equipment, increased by \$3,000 for the New Main Server/No labor charges.

**Maintenance**

Acct. # 6110, Truck, increased in the amount of \$4,000.00.

Chief's auto has been taken out of the budget; the new Chief's vehicle will be under general maintenance.

Acct. # 6240, Parks & Grounds, increased by \$500.00.

Acct. # 6400, Insurance, increased by \$3,000.00 (an estimate at this time).

**Fire Department**

Acct. # 7110, Fire Alarm Comm., increased by \$1,000.00, change in Radios, and Fire Alarm System.

Acct. # 7310, Training/Schooling, increased by \$2,000.00, increase in year round training, seminars and conferences.

Acct. # 7320, Awards/Meetings, increased by \$1,000.00, increase in cost of awards and award night.

Acct. # 7340, Clothing Allowance, increased by \$400.00, new Chief's uniform allowance.

**Utilities**

Acct. # 8300, Heating Fuel/HV Alton, decreased by \$2,000.00, based on average of both stations.

Acct. # 8400, Elect. HV/Alston, increased by \$3,000.00, based on the higher rates of electricity.

Loans

This year the district is paying less due to amortization.

The new Chief's Vehicle is to be added, new loan has been obtained, addition of \$9,781.00 for 3 years with final payment in Year 2018.

Income

Acct. # 2000, Verizon Tower, removed from the budget, as the start up is still unknown at this time.

Add a line item for funds to be transferred from the Reserve account for the Chief's Severance Package in the amount of \$50,315.00.

ADJOURN

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. by Ms. Ure and seconded by Mr. Johnson. With no further discussion, all in favor, all aye, motion passed unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Holt-yes; Mr. DeBernardo-yes; Ms. Ure-yes; Mr. Johnson-yes, Mr. Schaarschmidt-yes

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Kelley  
District Clerk