

Budget & Finance Meeting
Thursday, October 22, 2019
6:00 PM

Present: Pat Harvey, Barb Dehart, Vic Ribauda, Robert Meagher, Greg White, Nancy Woolley,
Absent: Doon Hinderyckx, Tom Schnabel, Jim Bowen, Lois Bond, Rob Gardner
Guest: Julie Smith

Review of the Open Meeting Law as related to Committees: Barb wanted to again review and discuss Vermont's Open Meeting Law, and how the law pertains to the Budget & Finance Committee. Will have a standard Agenda and add a section for Public Comment.

Health Insurance – BC/BS vs MVP: After much discussion about the two plans, the feeling is that with the exception of the premium, the plans are quite similar in all respects. MVP has its own in house HRA management plan. It was decided to recommend to the Selex that MVP Platinum and Gold plans with a lower premium cost should be offered to employees, allowing employees to elect the plan that most fits their need. The Town would continue paying 86% of the premium, with employees having 14% deducted from their pay. HRA funding would continue at \$650 to assist with deductibles. "Opt Out" amount would be approximately 50% of the MVP Gold premium. There is a premium formula which would apply for Two Person and Family coverage.

Emergency Management: Vic wished to know whether the Emergency Management Reserve Fund could be used to fund a required Town match (\$2,537.50) for a state grant (\$7,612.50) received to update the Town's Hazard Mitigation Plan which expired in June. The Grant pays Two Rivers to update the Plan at a cost of \$10,150. A current plan is needed in order to receive FEMA funding in the event of a disaster. When the FY20 budget was completed, it was not known that these funds would be necessary. Approximately \$600 of the match can be offset with some in-kind hours, but approximately \$2,000 will be required.

Additionally, Vic is looking for funds for WRVA and the Shelter Team to provide CPR training for 10-12 volunteers. WRVA charges \$410 for the first 5 students and \$85 for each additional student, which would total \$1,005 for 12 students. As background, the Emergency Management Reserve Fund was established originally to maintain the generator at the school, and had been funded at \$500 annually with a Town Meeting vote until FY14 when the amount was increased to \$1,000, to \$1,500 in FY16 and \$2,200 in FY18. Funding is now voted as part of the budget.

The Reserve Fund currently has approximately \$3,500 in it. B&F felt that both the matching grant and CPR training could be funded from the Reserve Fund. This will be a Selex decision.

Department Budgets: Quickly reviewed Fire Department and Listers. Will invite Terry Severy to the October 29 meeting at 3:00. Why is W/S Alarm still in budget? First look at budget shows Fire Department requesting an 18% increase over FY20. Grants? Listers budget is largely salary.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 29 at 3:00.

Adjourned: 4:20 PM

Nancy Woolley