

the emissions problem as an example. He noted that the emissions problem is a nuisance, it has to do with some type of filter and it could cost quite a bit of money. The entire Fire Department is in agreement that they need an aerial truck. W. Hopkinson asked if they are looking for any grant money to off-set the cost of the new truck. B. Cloney responded that as of yet, they have not.

G. Smith asked the condition of the rest of the Fire Departments trucks. B. Cloney explained that Engine 1 will need to be replaced in 2014, that is a \$400,000 truck. B. Cloney noted that D. Rybinsky put together a package which he proposed to S. Cable and M. Gomes, it included the ladder truck and the engine truck for less than a million dollars. B. Cloney also noted that his SEVA units (these are the breathing units) are not up to NFPA standards. He noted that most of them are 20 years old and are the life safety of the firefighters. The SEVA is part of the truck equipment and stays with the truck, it is not part of the startup gear.

B. Cloney noted that he realizes that this is all a lot of money but some of these things have been over-looked for years and he is bringing it all up because it needs to be looked at. He noted that they passed on replacing the ambulance last year but it definitely needs to be replaced this year. It was noted that the current Chevy ambulance will be sold for approximately \$4,000. J. Rodorigo noted that most of the equipment will come with the new ambulance with the exception of the stretcher which costs approximately \$10,000. He noted that generally when you purchase the ambulance you get a better deal on the stretcher. G. Smith asked if since they have 1 state of the art ambulance, would a type 2 ambulance for the 2nd vehicle be an option. J. Rodorigo answered his question with three points. He noted that a type 2 ambulance is just a Chevy van with the extended top and does not have 4 wheel drive. In Beacon Falls, with all the hills especially in the winter, you always need a 4 wheel drive. Additionally, a type 2 vehicle will not support the weight of 4 crew members and a patient. And finally, when you have a critical patient, you have additional personnel "life support personnel" as well as his gear and the crew, gear and patient just will not fit in a type 2 vehicle. J. Rodorigo noted that there is a huge difference in price between the two ambulances but he pointed out that they never know when the calls are coming in. He noted that a 4 wheel drive E series type 2 vehicle is just not reliable. He noted that he works for a commercial ambulance company and 1/3 of their fleet is out of service. He noted that they really don't want to have an ambulance that they can only use some of the time. B. Cloney pointed out that they have two similar ambulance for a reason. The personnel is trained to know where everything is on both ambulances. It is very important to have both ambulances be very similar for efficiency in taking care of the patients.

W. Hopkinson asked if they had an idea of how the collections would be this year. B. Cloney noted that the numbers will be a bit higher than last year, somewhere around \$68,000 but he will have his definite numbers by next week.

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L. Krepinevich noted that in the projections of 2012-2013 there was a new roof priced at \$175,000. B. Cloney noted that they do have to do a lot more research before they replace it. The current roof must be completely replaced and they will look into pricing, the \$175,000 may be excessive but they will definitely research it.

W. Hopkinson pointed out that it is going to be very hard to sell an aerial truck in this budget. She noted that they may have to strip it out and do it as a separate line item. A bond package was discussed as a good way to purchase this large items. M. Gomes asked the B. Cloney to give him the quotes and M. Gomes will look into it. B. Cloney will provide him this information within the week.

L. D'Amico noted that on page 16 under department request, he sees \$1,442,706. This is in question. Looking to the left, this looks like a lot of equipment purchases. He noted that years ago, when they needed these big ticket items, the lease purchase process worked out. That way you could spread the expense over time. He noted that when you talk about the age of the equipment that will last more than 20 years, and if we are to support our emergency services, it would probably be a good idea to bond these items or a portion of these items over many years. It is certainly something to be considered. L. D'Amico thanked all for the courtesy of allowing him to respectfully share his opinions.

J. Rodorigo pointed out that in line item 1553 the request was for \$15,000 was a mistake and that he is really requesting \$25,000. He explained that they tried to put most of EMS supplies, costs and expenditures in one line item. He noted that EMS training gets very costly. He noted that there is cost associated with training MRTs and he noted that he has been doing all of the training under his state certification for the past ten years at no cost to the town. He noted that it is a lot of work that he can no longer do for free. He asked the Fire Department to put this position out to bid, J. Rodorigo bid on it and he won the bid. Chief B. Cloney added that with J. Rodorigo being his relative he stepped out of the equation and a Board of Officers was put together to put out request for bids. The average training for each EMT is \$600. J. Rodorigo bid for the EMT class was \$2700. By hiring J. Rodorigo, they saved a ton of money.

All medical supplies for the ambulance come out of the 1553, as well as the training. It's the entire budget with the exception of physicals and two-way radios. J. Rodorigo pointed out that training is very expensive. The cost went up from \$30 per person to \$75.

W. Hopkinson asked what portion of the budget is for training. B. Cloney responded by saying that about \$9,000 for the entire year is for training. B. Cloney explained that there is an MRT

class at the beginning of the year, an EMT class at the end of the year and two re-certification classes, a total of four classes per year. Between EMT's and MRT's they have approximately 40 personnel.

G. Smith asked where they are going to put the ladder truck. B. Cloney noted that with they can now move some equipment over to the new building.

B. Cloney asked if he should expect any cuts in the budget he proposed. He was asked what cuts he could live with and he explained that he can't live with any. He noted that the budget has been overlooked for many years. He believes the items that he asked for are truly needed however, if he were to cut something, he could go another year without the windows (waste drain) if he had to.

J. Rodorigo noted that ambulance revenue more than pays for itself and would like the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen to take that into consideration. He suggested as a possibility that the money that is generated by the ambulance be put back into the cost of the ambulance.

G. Smith asked how many times they have needed the ladder truck this year. B. Cloney said that the Naugatuck ladder truck saved the bakery building. B. Cloney already noted that our ISO rating is very low. He noted that if the town owned their own ladder truck, home insurance for all residents in the town should go down due to improving our ISO rating. He noted that it would be an awful thing not to be able to reach someone in an emergency because they do not have a ladder truck nor does he want to risk his men's life by not being able to get to them once they are inside a burning building. A ladder truck would be able to somewhat help with river rescues off of route 8. A ladder truck will also have a pump on it. On day time calls when there is a limited amount of crew, they can run only one truck. All members of the Fire Department will come out to support a meeting or vote regarding this truck.

L. D'Amico told a story of a while ago when there was a very serious fire in a two family home and Beacon Falls did not have an aerial truck. He noted that 2 children were lost in that fire. He asked what value do you put on a life. He noted that if maybe we had a better truck at the time, these lives could have been saved.

With no more questions for the Fire Department, both Boards thanked them for their input.

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L. D'Amico thanked both Boards for the courtesy they extended him in allowing him to speak.

Park and Recreation- S. Cable noted that they have spoke to Park and Recreation and the Highway Department and had cut some things out. She noted that we're growing and have a lot of needs and the economy is not good so we have to think of more creative ways such as bonding packages, grants, etc.

W. Hopkinson would like to start on page 5 with some questions she has. W. Hopkinson asked about the \$10,000 increase for records books for the Town Clerk. S. Cable and M. Krenesky explained that this was supposed to allow the computers in other offices in the building to have access to the town clerks data base remotely. S. Cable noted that when she spoke to the Town Clerk, he could probably live without these links. S. Cable noted that this will be cut due to other financial priorities.

G. Smith mentioned that he thinks something needs to be done with the First Selectmen's salary. S. Cable noted that the outcome will not change no matter what is done with the salary. G. Smith noted that in his opinion, the First Selectman salary should be addressed. D. Sorrentino asked him to elaborate. G. Smith noted that for 1. it would hopefully attract or open the field up to people that may bring a different skill set to the table. 2. He thinks it is insulting and not right that we have a \$6,000,000 corporation and the CEO makes \$34,000 per year. He also believes that \$7,400 for the other selectmen is just not right. He noted that there will never be a right time to adjust these numbers and they definitely should be looked at. S. Cable noted that she has always been an advocate of the Selectmen having a specific assignment. For example, the parks be assigned to someone specific.

B. Ploss asked about miscellaneous repairs in the town hall. S. Cable noted that they have already used a lot of this year's budget and they do have a project in mind to move the furnace but she did apply for a grant for that.

S. Cable asked that everyone look into having a full time certified Town Clerk and certified Tax Collector. It was noted that to do this effectively, it should be done in the correct cycle. There is one year left for the Tax Collector but the Town Clerk has a 4 year term.

Medical insurance is an estimate but it is what they think it will be. S. Cable is meeting next week with insurance and labor lawyers. She will advise after the meetings.

The Building Inspector's wages went down. This is due to having a new inspector who is being paid less per hour.

Page9 - Web page consultant went up \$5,000 - this is related to consolidating the part time library wage with the web consultant.

Engineering and Consultants - The current budget was for \$75,000 and we have currently spent \$75,000; we will keep it at \$75,000 for the upcoming year because some of the payments were taken from the wrong line-items. It will be corrected and will be around \$6,000.

Software Package - A discussion regarding the faulty software that M. Gomes uses took place. The Board noted that paying \$4,500 per year for maintenance on a product that does not work correctly is unacceptable. S. Cable noted that last week was the first she heard of it. Now that it is on the table, it should be addressed. M. Krenesky noted that M. Gomes should also be prepared to advise on a different software problem.

Page 10 - Fire Marshall - The mandated training will be crossed out as well as vehicle repair and fuel . Additionally "code red new" 7125 but on page 16 it shows "code red" program 2010 and it's out. It's a 3 year contract but it was put under special projects but it does not really belong there. Code Red is how emergency notification is made to the town residents. M. Krenesky said that you could go to the town website and sign up with your phone number so that if there is ever an emergency or public notification, you will receive a phone call with notification. There is still training needed for this program as it is another means of communication other than computers. This did start out as a grant and according to S. Cable, this will probably also be covered by a grant. M. Krenesky pointed out that if there is U-Verse outage and you are set up with U-Verse, you will also lose your phone service.

Page 11 - Fire Hydrants - Taxes regarding fire hydrants was discussed. G. Smith asked if taxes were being paid on fire hydrants. S. Cable answered that we are getting taxes from the water company for the fire hydrants but she is not sure if we are getting taxes on the fire hydrant pipes. It was also noted that we receive a check for the telephone poles from the state. It was asked if we are paid for the wires that go from pole to pole.

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Animal Control - Public Safety - There is a formula issue in this line item. It will be pointed out to M. Gomes

Guard Rails, Catch Basins and Tree Work was discussed - The tree work was being taking out of a couple different line items. G. Smith asked if we are sending out all tree work. S. Cable noted that some of the work has to be sent out because it's too high and some the town crew does themselves (a cherry picker would be needed for the bigger jobs).

Chip Sealing - Paving is going to be done through bonding so there is no longer a line item for it. S. Cable noted that there are some roads in desperate need of repair. D. Sorrentino noted that to do Rimmon Hill would cost approximately \$35,000 (he noted \$2.00 a square foot). It was noted that Rimmon Hill is a lot of road. S. Cable noted that Blackberry Hill needs re-claiming and Highland Avenue needs re-claiming and drainage. We have bond money for Blackberry Hill and we put in for some money for Highland Avenue. Avenue D also needs re-claiming and draining. Patricia Terrace and Dolly Drive both need re-claiming and drainage. Re-claiming is re-doing the roads completely. There is a petition that Patricia Terrace and Dolly Drive be put on the sewer lines. Rimmon Hill needs chip sealing, Burton Road needs re-claiming and chip sealing, West Road needs chip sealing, roads in hill section need milling, re-claiming, sewer and drainage. S. Cable does not have the total numbers for this yet. It was noted that if the town was going to do some bonding, maybe they should have an entire package. S. Cable noted that there is another aspect of bonding. We could go out for bonding and then look for other ways to off-set the costs and not end up bonding the entire amount. Basically it would buy us some time to look into other ways to cover some costs.

Bonding was discussed as being a good idea.

A Joint Board of Finance and Board of Selectman Budget meeting was set up for Tuesday March 30th, 2010 at 7:30 P.M.

Highway Maintenance - L. Krepinevich pointed out that they are asking for \$12,000 for street sweeping and \$60,000 for snow removing and materials. He asked how much of that, if any, is to purchase sand. D. Sorrentino said that he doesn't think they purchased sand in a long time. His point is that if we are only using the salt then there should be no "sand" sweeping required. He noted that we were buying the treated salt because every article and report that he has seen regarding the treated salt is all about saving money in the end by not having any sand to sweep up. If you're not using sand and only salt, then sand sweeping should not be required. It was noted that there is some sand on some roads but none on Route 42 which is taken care of by the

state. He noted that if the town is only using the magic salt in a limited way and then still using sand and conversely have to pick the sand up doesn't make much sense. D. Sorrentino noted that nature directs what we do with the sand or salt. M. Krenesky noted that there is some sand on Wolfe Road. He noted that it is less than before but he does not know what percentage they are using. It was noted that whatever the state is using does not leave sand. L. Krepinevich pointed out that whatever they are using at the Condominiums in Beacon Hill also does not leave sand. S. Cable pointed out that we started this as a transition and not everyone started out using it so she suggests we find out the percentages that are currently being used and go from there. The ultimate goal would be to not have to clean up the sand.

G. Smith asked what the highway materials versus snow and removal materials - R. Doiron said that it has to be pipes for coverts, cement blocks and things for building catch basins he would think.

W. Hopkinson re-iterated that we will discuss the chip sealing and tree work at the next meeting and maybe discuss this as bonding. It will be further discussed at the March 30th meeting.

Park and Recreation - What is the \$30,000 for? D. Sorrentino said that it is for a TPA study that the Selectmen had approved for a long range plan. S. Cable noted that they approved a long range plan but they did not yet approve the \$30,000. The study has already been done but the \$30,000 is to do small pieces. M. Krenesky noted that Parks and Rec are putting together a public hearing to talk about Mathies park and the whole TPA study and the reality of where Mathies Park is today and that it needs some work and should be looked at. G. Smith asked about Toby Park. It was noted that it is not yet being discussed but the plans are to take a trip up north and see how other towns made money on parks like this.

Another Joint Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen Budget Workshop was set up for April 5, 2010, 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:07 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lauren Classey

Clerk for the Board of Finance

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