

**Town of Old Orchard Beach
Finance Committee Minutes
Monday, February 6, 2017 at 5:30 PM
Location: Police Department Community Room**

A Finance Committee Meeting was held in the Police Department Community Room on Monday, February 6, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. The following were in attendance:

Chair Dr. Reza Namin
Vice Chair Jim Duclos
Jay Reynolds
Todd Bassett
Fire Chief Ed Dube
Assistant Town Manager V. Louise Reid

Absent: Finance Director Diana Asanza
Town Manager Larry Mead
John Gallo

An election of the positions of Chair and Vice Chair was held with the following motion being made:

MOTION: Jim Duclos motioned and Todd Bassett seconded to elect Dr. Reza Namin as Chair of the Finance Committee, term to expire December 31, 2017.

VOTE: Unanimous.

MOTION: Jay Reynolds motioned and Todd Bassett seconded to elect Jim Duclos As Vice Chair of the Finance Committee, term to expire December 31, 2017.

VOTE: Unanimous.

Discussion continued on setting schedules for discussions of the CIP Budgets for the following departments:

Fire – which was to be discussed this evening
Police
Waste Water
Public Works
Ballpark
Recreation
Harmon Museum
Town Clerk
Code Enforcement

It was determined that future meetings would be scheduled (tentative as seen below), if attendance is possible by members:

Tuesday, February 14	@ 5:30 PM	Waste Water	Town Hall Chamber
Wednesday, February 22	@ 5:30 PM	Public Works	Police Department
Tuesday, February 28	@ 5:30 PM	Ballpark, Recreation	Police Department
Monday, March 6	@ 5:30 PM	Police Department	Police Department
Wednesday, March 15	@ 5:30 PM	Harmon Museum, Town Clerk, Code Enforcement	Police Department

It was determined that as in the past, the Finance Committee will rate the requests for CIP funding for each of the department as it is easier for the Town Manager and Town Council to determine the suggested approvals for the CIP budget if they are rated accordingly. The Department Heads had also rated their requests.

Fire Chief Ed Dube was introduced and welcomed by the Committee; this being his first introduction to most of the Committee. He presented his CIP requests and passionately presented the needs of his department which was supported by prior visits by some of the Committee to the Fire Department building. The Chief explained that he feels fortunate that much of the equipment (fire truck, ambulance) is new; much of the equipment is old and outdated and needs to be replaced with new and safer equipment. Much of his requested funding is for such equipment.

It was noted that the 30 air packs (SCBA) have already been purchased because of an excellent opportunity and enormous savings through a Massachusetts State bid. A self-contained breathing apparatus is sometimes referred to as a compressed air breathing apparatus, or simply breathing apparatus; is a device work by rescue workers, firefighters and others to provide breathable air in an immediately dangerous to life situation. It was noted that these tend to be expensive because of the exotic materials used to provide the flame resistance. It was noted that this was approved on January 3, 2017 by the Town Council. (Discussion with Action: Consider the lease-purchase for the Fire Department of thirty (30) air-packs and face pieces with sixty (60) cylinders, in the amount of \$195,022, from IPS, LLC of South Portland; with an up-front payment of \$90,000 from Account Number 52002-50861 – Public Safety CIP SCBA Equipment and Upgrades, with a balance of \$90,759.86; and financing the balance of \$105,022 over three-years (FY18, FY19, and FY20 budgets.)

There appeared to be total acceptance and agreement by the Committee on the need for these air packs.

Discussion of the need to purchase Cardiac Monitor Life Pack-15 was also considered by the Committee. Life Pak is a series of vital signs monitors and external cardiac defibrillators produced by medical technology companies. Life Paks are more than just defibrillators. They constantly monitor heart rates and alert the users to sudden changes. They are used for treating unstable fast rhythms, external pacing, and monitoring of oxygen saturation, CO2 output for intubation and blood pressure. The anticipated request for funding is for \$31,500.

In discussion firefighter gear, the Chief gave a historical account of the age of the equipment that is being used and the safety need for replacement. This request includes \$25,000 for 2018; \$20,000 for the next five years. If not, then in FY24 with no

replacements till that time the cost would be \$115,000. The Chief also updated the Committee on the increased calls for service related to our increased senior population. He had anticipated when he came that the summer activities would be great but instead the surprise is the winter resident need for service. An interesting account of a chemical fire was given by the Chief only compounding the need for more current and up-to-date equipment.

It was acknowledged by the Chief and then the Committee of the great amount of work that has been done by the Fire Department staff – as a result of their own efforts and abilities to upgrade the fire department which, built in 1976 – forty years ago. There is still an enormous amount of work that needs to be done and the Chief presented projects such as removal of asbestos; no separate bathrooms or locker rooms for men and women; inadequate temperature and humidity issues; heating system issues; roof needs repairs; electrical and piping needs; need to take down walls; etc. The final comment of the Finance Committee was that this appears to be a \$150,000 plus project; not a \$100,000.

The discussion on the ambulance stretcher noted the need for the emergency team to be able to use these medical transport devices safely and the newer models make transportation easier, regardless of the terrain. With a new ambulance in use, this is a necessary purchase and the cost is perhaps around the \$17,000 mark. The key value of a stretcher is to prevent further injury as well as to ease the burden on the individuals carrying the stretcher itself. The present ambulance stretcher is old and not of the more current and safe piece of equipment.

The final discussion was on the purchase of a 4 by 4 pick-up truck and the question was asked if the present truck could be used as a trade-in to which the Chief responded that it had no trade-in-value. The requested amount for the new truck would be \$40,000.

The Chief has indicated his preferences to be:

- a. Air Packs
- b. Cardiac Monitor Life Pack-15
- c. Firefighter Gear
- d. Fire Station Rehab
- e. Ambulance Stretcher
- f. 4x4 Pick Up Truck

The Chair of the Finance Committee indicated that he would be mailing confirmation of the dates of future meetings so that the Assistant Town Manager can inform each of the Department Heads in a timely manner.

The Finance Committee meeting ended at 6:45 p.m.