

TOWN OF CHESTER
BUDGET WORKSHOP
SEPTEMBER 24, 2015
7:00 pm

Members present: Supervisor Jamieson, Councilman Murray, Councilwoman Smith, Councilman Valentine.

Also present: Sharon Conklin, Bookkeeper

COURT: Judge Janet Haislip and Judge Sharon Worthy-Spiegl presented their department's budget request to the Board.

Equipment A1110.2: They added \$1,650 in the equipment line for 2 printers and 3 computer monitors to replace the ones in use since 2006. The computers are provided by the State. Supervisor Jamieson suggested that they use the unexpended \$600 in the 2015 budget towards the purchase of some of the equipment needed.

Personal Services A1110.1: They asked for a 4% increase for the court clerks and left their salary increase at the discretion of the Board.

Contractual A1110.4: They requested \$18,000 in contractual expenses, the same as last year, which includes costs of education and books needed by the Court.

POLICE: Chief Doellinger presented his department's budget request to the Board.

Personal Services B3120.1: Chief Doellinger explained that the personal services budget of \$1,728,777 is based on a 3% raise above current rates. The current police contract expires December 31, 2015. Included in this budget is a \$50,000 leave accrual payout toward potential retirements. In addition, there is funding included for one full-time and three part-time officers, of which one may be filled in the near future.

Equipment B3120.2: Chief Doellinger explained that the budget of \$60,000 includes funds towards the replacement of two vehicles which is anticipated, will have in excess of 100,000 miles in 2016. He added that three cars were surplus this year for \$9,000 along with a current surplus of \$15,000 due to reduced fuel costs in 2015 in the contractual line. This surplus could be used to offset the purchase of one of the vehicles.

Contractual B3120.4: Chief Doellinger explained the major items of the \$164,154 budget. The fuel budget was reduced by \$7,000. The current radar trailer is unrepairable. A new one could be purchased at \$25,000 and a refurbished would be \$11,000, which was included in this budget. Mobile Data Terminal purchases are estimated at \$7,500 and IT services, a new budget item is at \$6,400. Estimated new revenues include \$9,700 from the Byrne Grant.

Animal Control A3510.4: Chief Doellinger added a 4% increase to the contractual expenses for animal control with Warwick Valley Humane. He said they are always willing to respond for assistance calls and handle wildlife. He has included \$2,900 for the Spay Neuter Return. This year grant money was received to offset and may be offset again in 2016. The Chief noted the Clerk's suggestion of a late fee

for delinquent dog license renewals, an impound fee of \$15 per day after the first 24 hours, and a \$50 fee for the court appearance of the animal control officer. These fees could offset the additional cost to the Town for mailings, postage, boarding and enumeration expenses. It was discussed that this should be checked against Town Law.

Chief Doellinger requested that the budget for the new police building also include money for generator repair since the one in place is not operational. In addition, the Town Hall as a command post and emergency shelter, should be equipped with a back-up generator. Supervisor Jamieson said he would call Assemblyman Skoufis to inquire about grant funding for this purpose.

Chief Doellinger also requested the implementation of an Employee Assistance Program, now that the Town is changing their insurance program. A quote of \$2,200 was received in 2012 to cover 50 employees. Sharon Conklin said it is a mandated program. Supervisor Jamieson said that the Town should pursue this program.

Chief Doellinger also requested building upgrades to the current police department offices, including a standup shower stall, bullet resistant interior transaction window and replacement/upgrade of our existing fire alarm system. The Clerk added that the alarm system upgrades may be covered through a Court grant.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilwoman Smith to approve the attendance of Sharon Conklin and the future payroll clerk at the NYS Retirement System seminar in Washingtonville on October 8, 2015 at no cost. Motion carried 4-0.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine to set another budget meeting for September 28, 2015 at 7:00pm at Town Hall. Motion carried 4-0.

Budget session ended at 8:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda A. Zappala
Town Clerk