

TOWN OF CHESTER  
BUDGET WORKSHOP  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2015  
7:00 pm

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

Also present: Sharon Conklin, Bookkeeper

**LIBRARY:** Tanya Woods, President of the Library Board of Trustees and Maureen Jagos, Director presented the Library budget to the Board.

**Contractual A7410.4** – Ms. Jagos stated that the 2015 budget was bare bones. The 33% cut dropped readership since there were less “LINK letters” and the summer reading program tanked. The Library has \$48,000 of the surplus funds, and for the first time they have to start charging for programs. Revenues include an estimated \$20,000 for 2016. In 2015 there is expected \$15,000 in revenues. RCLS includes the computers, delivery, tech user fees, trustee workshops. Publicity expense includes the newsletter. It costs \$3,000 to print and mail each newsletter.

**Personal Services A7410.1** – They are requesting between a 3-4% increases for payroll. There are two part-time positions that can be filled as a result of the increase.

Ms. Jagos said the library has been advised by a consultant that they can go to a Chapter 414 Vote which could separate the library’s budget from the Town. It would take one year to get on the ballot. It would be part of the general election vote. They would use a focus group because they need to develop a 5-year plan. The budget could include operations only or both personal services and operations. They are a Town Library, so the tax would be a line on the Town tax bill. They would be subject to the tax cap or else have to pass a resolution to exceed the cap. The consideration is in a discovery phase at this time.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Councilman Murray and seconded by Councilman Valentine to fill the duties vacated by the retirement of Darlene DeMarmels by Tanya McPhee. Motion carried 4-0.

Budget session ended at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda A. Zappala  
Town Clerk