

Gilford Fire/Rescue Budget Sub-Committee Report

The Gilford Fire/Rescue Budget Sub-Committee met on 25 October 2021 at the Gilford Fire Station. Budget Committee members present were Chair Sean Murphy, Steven Hepburn and School Board rep. Gretchen Gandini. Representing the Fire Department were Chief Steve Carrier, Deputy Chief Brad Ober and Engineer Ron Skinner. The meeting began at 4:30.

Fire-Rescue: Line item 01-4220-101 FT wages will increase \$ 17,608 or 1.74% in 2022. Majority of the increase is because of elevating the administrative assistant to executive secretary, which will increase her hours from 32 to 40 hrs per week. This change will take effect 1 July 2022. There is a decrease in the PT wages account because of this proposed change. Line item 01-4220-221 Physicals & Medical Expenses will increase \$ 9,350 or 296.83%. Over the last 3 budget years this account has been historically under-budgeted. Line item 01-4220-331 Uniform & Clothing Allowance will increase \$ 1,000 or 16.67% because of the cost of the uniforms. Line item 01-4220-451 New Equipment will increase \$ 1,000 or 10% from this year. The proposed increase is for new water rescue equipment. The sub-committee recommends 3-0 the budget as proposed by the Board of Selectman at \$ 2,187,100, which is an increase of \$ 25,595 or 1.18% over last year's budget.

Forestry: There were no questions asked and the sub-committee recommended the budget 3-0 as proposed by the Board of Selectman at \$ 1,000 which is down \$ 697 or 41.07% over last year's budget.

Emergency Management: There were no questions asked and the sub-committee recommends the budget 3-0 as proposed by the Board of Selectman at \$ 3,277 which will see an increase of \$ 35 or 1.07% over last year's budget.

Fire Protection: Lakes Region Mutual Fire Aid Dispatch is up \$ 2,192 or 2.34% from last year's budget. This is the agency that dispatches all fire/ems calls for the Lakes Region and surrounding communities. The funding formula is 10% flat fee, 40% Assessed Value of the Community and 50% of population. Laconia Water Department pays for the hydrants that are in Gilford. They are in the Morrill Street, Bedford Avenue, Ridgewood Avenue and LakeShore Road area of Gilford. The sub-committee recommends the budget 3-0 as proposed by the Board of Selectman at \$ 139,989.

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sean Murphy
Gilford Budget Committee Chair

