

**Town of Colebrook
Board of Finance**

Minutes to the Meeting on February 25, 2015

Members Present

J. Millar, Chairman
R. Carfiro
T. Corvo
J. Dorazio
D. Johnstone
M. Neal

Absent

None

Others Present

T. McKeon
J. Alciati
C. Johnstone

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman, J. Millar.

1. First Selectman, T. McKeon, presented the Board of Selectmen's 2015-16 budget of \$1,765,626, an increase of 1.9% or \$33,363 over the current year. The principal increases are to road oil and maintenance \$20,000, vehicle maintenance \$6,000, winter maintenance \$5,000, and a 2% pay increase \$9,626. There are also several decreases: health insurance \$9,973, fuel \$3,400, and paramedic intercept \$2,080.
2. T. McKeon then presented a zero increase budget as requested by the Board of Finance. Zero increase would be achieved by eliminating increases or reducing vehicle repairs, winter maintenance, the road oil and maintenance programs, tree removal, and repairs to the town hall. T. McKeon noted that Colebrook spends less on road maintenance than other towns and that the current spending level may not be enough to keep the roads in adequate repair.
3. Reviewed an e-mail from Superintendent J. Chittum saying that he will reduce the increase to the Board of Education's 2015-16 budget by \$10,660 in response to our request, subject to approval by his Board. Other follow ups noted in the minutes to February 18 are still pending.
4. Briefly discussed options to close the projected deficit of \$212,696; namely, some combination of reducing the proposed budgets, increasing the mill rate, and/or use of reserves. Will discuss further next week.
5. D. Johnstone moved to accept the minutes of February 18, 2015. Second, T. Corvo. Passed unanimously.
6. R. Carfiro moved to adjourn. Second, J. Dorazio. Passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha F. Neal
Secretary