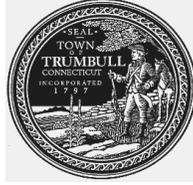


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FINANCE COMMITTEE
MINUTES
January 31, 2012

The Chair called the Finance Committee to order at 7:09 p.m. All present joined in a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Clerk Called the roll and recorded it as follows:

Present:

Debra Lamberti, Chairman
Tony Scinto, Vice Chairman
Ann Marie Evangelista, Alternate

Vicki Tesoro
Gregg Basbagill

Absent: John DelVecchio, Jr., Alternate, Jane Deyoe and Mark LeClair.

Also Present: Mr. Daniel Nelson, Chief of Staff and Chief of Police Thomas H. Kiely.

-
1. RESOLUTION TC24-17: Moved by Mr. Basbagill, seconded by Mr. Scinto.
BE IT RESOLVED, That 4,588 is hereby appropriated from the Unrestricted Fund Balance to 01022000-581888 Police-Capital Outlay for costs associated with a department vehicle purchase.

Chief Kiely explained that the current truck is a 1999 Ford pick-up truck which serves a utilitarian purpose for the odd jobs that come up at the police department. When the truck was originally purchased it had never been undercoated which resulted in it rotting and is unusable. The truck is used for the following purposes:

- Plowing the Police department parking lot which needs to be accessible 24/7
There have even been times when they police have plowed a driveway to allow an ambulance access. This does not happen often but it has occurred.
- Unusual or catastrophic events such as a pole being knocked down in the middle of the night or when a traffic light goes out. The truck would be used to transport the barricades or the portable stop signs to the scene.
- Back-up for the Scuba team and equipment.
- Back-up for the ERT team and equipment.
- Utilitarian dump runs for the department
- Detective Bureau use.

This truck has become a very valuable tool to the department over the years. The Police Department has always had a pick-up truck. If this truck is approved it will be undercoated. The Police Department is receiving \$3,000 for the trade-in and will be able to use the plow on the new vehicle. Chief Kiely confirmed for the Chair that the current vehicle only has 20,000 miles on it.

In response to Mr. Scinto, Chief Kiely stated that the rock salt used on the streets may have has some part in the rotting. The truck is twelve years old. Mr. Scinto spoke favorably of the \$3,000 for the trade in on a twelve year old vehicle.

In response to Ms. Evangelista, Chief Kiely confirmed the value of the truck is over \$30,000. The Police department purchases the vehicles off of state bid which represents the lowest price they can get.

Chief Kiely confirmed for Mr. Basbagill by appropriating the funds now they would be able to receive the vehicle in the next month or so. As of this year the Crown Victoria (police car) is no longer available, their cost was approximately \$22,000. The base price for the Chevrolet Caprice is \$28,900. The department wants to stay with rear wheel drive because all of the police training is with the rear wheel drive and its durability factor, the police car will go to over 2,000 medical calls per year with lights and sirens, the mechanics recommend rear wheel drive because police cars are always putting stress on the transmission and front end by the sudden stop and starts. Several departments have purchased front wheel drive cars in years past and they did not last. This change from the Crown Victoria will be a big change, this change can not be put off to the next year it will only cause a bigger financial hardship the following year, the cars put 6,000 miles on per month.

In response to Mr. Scinto, Chief Kiely stated that light bar and sirens could be blended in, they do last ten years but there will be a cost associated with those as well. The police car serves the most important service to the Town, calls to the residents.

VOTE: Motion CARRIED unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss the Finance Committee adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret D. Mastroni