

LELAND TOWNSHIP FIRE AND RESCUE

BUDGET MEETING

Wednesday, February 16, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.

Leland Township Office

224 W. Main Street, Lake Leelanau, MI 49653

MINUTES

PRESENT: Treasurer Shirley Garthe, Trustee Mariann Kirch, Supervisor Susan Och, Clerk Lisa Brookfield, Trustee Clint Mitchell, Chief Dan Besson

CALL TO ORDER - The budget workshop meeting was called to order at 10:03 a.m.

Chief Besson distributed budget documents.

BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Fire equipment and training – The expected income is \$255,000 and a sale of \$30,000 of equipment (ambulance and brush truck). The department has two trucks that are used for brush fires. The one for sale does not serve the department’s purposes except for plowing and Chief would like to replace it. He is expecting to pay \$20,000 to redo the Chief’s truck. It is anticipated that the new ambulance chassis will be here by January.

Chief Besson provided a detailed budget spreadsheet with a narrative for each line item. He discussed each line item and his plan for the expense and answered questions as they arose from Board members. Chief Besson always keeps an eye out for grants that become available.

Operations – The income is expected to be \$929,000 from property taxes and \$100,000 from helping out other townships. Chief Besson discussed the difficulty in anticipating wage amounts because of the turnover of employees.

Chief Besson discussed the proposed budget thoroughly and answered questions. Please refer to his detailed report for any other information.

Chief Besson discussed wants and needs of the Fire and Rescue Department. He would like the ambulance fees to be accounted for in equipment income instead of operating income. Ms. Brookfield commented that it had to go into operation because it is reimbursement for operation. The amount fluctuates, so you can’t predict an amount. Unused funds are moved into the operation budget. The last millage was renewed in 2017.

The question to be answered is what amount of millage is needed to support operating expenses and how to explain it to voters.

If we get a \$100,000 millage, the price to residents for ambulance service may go down. May 10 is deadline for the ballot language.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Kacin, Recording Secretary

Date Approved: _____

Susan Och, Supervisor

Lisa Brookfield, Township Clerk