

SIMSBURY FIRE DISTRICT

871 HOPMEADOW STREET • SIMSBURY • CONNECTICUT • 06070

Telephone: 860-658-1971 • Facsimile: 860-658-5611

SIMSBURY FIRE DISTRICT BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING SIMSBURY MAIN STATION 195 HOPMEADOW STREET MARCH 2nd, 2023 MINUTES

Attendees: President Gary Wilcox, Vice President Dan Coppinger, Treasurer Peter Pabich, Clerk John Solury, Commissioners Geoff Giddings and Hugh Caldwell, District Administrator James Baldis, six members of the public.

- 1: Call to order: President Gary Wilcox called the workshop to order at 7:01pm**
- 2: Public Audience: None**
- 3: Workshop to Develop the 2023/2024 Simsbury**

Areas comprising the 2023/2024 budget development are as follows:

**Current Budget Year review
23/24 Budget Assumptions
23/24 Capital Review
23/24 Operation/CNR Budget Review
Anticipated Mill Rate**

The review of the current budget indicated no significant issues that would put the current proposed budget in jeopardy.

The funds for the training building that was in the current budget will remain dedicated to that project while the project is under review.

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Fire District Annual Budget:

The following assumptions were presented:

- 1) 5.9 % Cola and Merit Salary increase.**
- 2) Expected inflation increase.**
- 3) Continue funding frozen LOSAP.**
- 4) Next payment on New Volunteer Benefit Plan.**
- 5) Second of four payments into Volunteer Benefit Program for members not in LOSAP.**
- 6) Workmen's Comp. and Insurance increases.**
- 7) Health insurance increase (5%)**
- 8) Fire Protection (water) rate increase**
- 10) Grand List increase up 27% due to revaluation**
- 11) Some improvement in interest on cash due to inflation.**
- 12) Collection rate unchanged**
- 13) Cellular increase to remain.**

CAPITAL

- 14) Engine replacement schedule:**
 - a. Engine 3 (24/25 timeframe)**
 - b. Rescue 14 (25/26 timeframe)**
 - c. Tanker 9 (26/27 timeframe)**
 - d. Purchase of two FMO vehicles**
- 15) Complete station camera upgrades, breathing equipment, Upgrade computer equipment, replace two imaging cameras, Firefighting Gear, HVAC replacement at Bushy Hill Station, Generator replacement at Bushy Hill and Tarriffville stations, HVAC and Heating at Tarriffville station, Fencing for security at Weatogue training grounds.**

Generator replacement funds have been requested via the town as part of the Federal ARPA Funds.

The proposed budget if approved will carry a decrease in the Mill Rate.

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At the Annual Meeting, a transfer of 300,000.00 from cash reserves will be requested and added to the Fire Truck Account to provide ample funding to allow bidding and ordering of replacement Engine 3.

A preliminary budget will be presented to the Fire District Executive committee at the 3/13/2023 meeting with Final Budget to the Executive committee for vote at the 4/10/2023 meeting.

This year's Annual Meeting will be May 8th, 2023, at Main Station.

- 4: Questions and Answers: A few questions were received and discussed from the members of the public attending.**
- 5: Adjournment: 8:52 pm**

John J Solury Sr., Clerk