

**CONWAY VILLAGE FIRE DISTRICT
BUDGET HEARING
Tuesday, February 7, 2017 7:00 p.m.
Minutes**

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Commissioners present: Janine Bean, Michael Digregorio, Steve Bamsey

Others present: Gregg Quint- Superintendent, Chief Solomon, and Amy Snow-Municipal Bookkeeper

Public present: Tom Buco and Carol DiGregorio

Mr. Buco asked about the length of the contracts, he wanted to know why they were for five years. The Chief explained that that was what the Town of Conway wanted but there is a 180 day escape clause in the contract.

Mrs. Digregorio asked if the figures could be renegotiated and the Chief explained that the Fire contract is based on a formula and the Ambulance contract increases each year.

Mr. Buco asked about the articles using fund balance, he wanted to know what it is and where it comes from. The Chief explained that the expenses were less than anticipated and the revenue was more than anticipated so the money goes back to the taxpayers to offset taxes. Amy explained that Fund Balance is the total of all assets minus all liabilities for each fund but the Fund Balance being used is strictly residual cash.

Mrs. Digregorio asked about the Betterment fees and it was explained that this reduces the taxes almost by half and that the sewer demand have been discontinued. She stated that the user fees have gone up quite a bit and was told that it was because the sewer operating expenses are 100% on user fees.

Mr. Buco had some general questions regarding the revenue side of the budgets, asking why the penalty fees are so high in water and sewer and not there in 2016. Amy explained that she did not break out the penalty fees last year and the Board and Staff all agreed that the penalty fees were not that high considering the fees charged by the town. 18% versus 3% at the District.

There being no further discussion, the Chair closed the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Snow, Municipal Bookkeeper