

**TOWN OF CHESTERFIELD
BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 13, 2026**

Present: George Goulet, Chairman (departed at 8:30 PM); Tammy Bischof, Spofford Fire District Representative; Bruce Soltys, School Board Representative; Alex Winn, Vice-Chair; Brad Roscoe, Judy Idelkope, Selectboard Representative; Sandra Jaskolski, Karen Denzler, Leslie Frank, Rick Cooper, Chesterfield Fire & Rescue Precinct; John Schreiver, Burt Riendeau and Bob Sutherland.

George called the meeting to order at 7 PM

ARTICLE 5: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,000 to be added to the already established Office of Emergency Management Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 6: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,000 to be added to the already established IT Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,360 to purchase four new laptops, five desktops, SharePoint Migration, Network storage, and a Town Office Firewall, PD Firewall renewal and associated costs for installation and authorize the withdrawal of the sum of \$21,360 from the IT Expendable Trust Fund. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$370,000 for the purpose of resurfacing of paved roads and maintenance of gravel Town roads, or act in any way related thereto, said appropriation to be partially offset by the Highway Block Grant funds from the State of New Hampshire in the amount of \$159,937. If the grant is not fully received, the remainder to be raised through taxation along with the \$210,063 that will be raised from taxation. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

\$ 60,000 for gravel roads
\$ 70,000 for chip sealing
\$240,000 for paving

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$160,000 to be added to the already established Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$48,500 to purchase a new boom mower and associated equipment for the Highway Department and authorize the withdrawal of the sum \$48,500 from the Highway Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the already established Roadways Construction/Reconstruction Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to be added to the already established Culverts & Guardrails Expendable Trust Fund or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$26,400 to be added to the already established Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$58,000 fifth year of the full cyclical revaluation and authorize the withdrawal of the sum of \$58,000 from the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to be added to the already established Town Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$300,000 to be added to the already established Town Buildings Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$294,500 and authorize the withdrawal of the sum of \$294,500 from the Town Buildings Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund, to support the following, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

2 Front Library Windows	14,000
Back Wall of Town Hall	7,500
Fence Enclosure around Dumpster at Town Building	4,000
Carpets in Code Enforcement Office	4,000
Reverse Osmosis System for Town Hall	5,000
2 New Flagpoles - Town Office & Town Hall	10,000
HVAC - Town Office Building Phase 1	250,000
TOTAL	294,500

There was discussion about the amount of \$250,000 for HVAC

ARTICLE 18: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 to be added to the already established Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 19: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$74,340 to purchase a new police cruiser and associated equipment and installation and authorize the withdrawal of the sum of \$74,340 from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required).

ARTICLE 20: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,500 to be added to the already established Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 21: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,640 to purchase eight ballistic level III helmets and authorize the withdrawal of the sum of \$4,640 from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose, or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 22: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,700 for a handheld radar unit and installation and authorize the withdrawal of the sum of \$2,700 from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose, or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 23: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,700 for a portable radio and authorize the withdrawal of the sum of \$6,700 from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose, or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 24: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000 to replace base station radio and authorize the withdrawal of the \$12,000 from the Police Department Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for that purpose, or act in any way related thereto. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 25: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to be added to the already established Parks and Rec Pickup Truck Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 26: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 to be added to the already established Parks and Rec 4x4 All-Terrain Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 27: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 to be added to the already established Parks and Rec Activities Enhancements Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 28: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 to be added to the already established Wildland Fire Suppression Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 29: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$6,500 to be added to the already established Cemetery Truck Replacement Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 30: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to be added to the already established Cemetery Mower Replacement Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 31: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$750 to be added to the already established General Cemetery Care Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 32: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$500 to be added to the already established ROW (Right-of-Way) Survey Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 33: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 to be added to the already established Transfer Station Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 34: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,000 to purchase a new container for compactor, installation, and associated equipment for the Transfer Station and authorize the withdrawal of the sum \$22,000 from the Transfer Station Heavy Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 35: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500 to be added to the already established Library Legal Expense Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 36: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum \$20,000.00 to be added to the already established Town Hall Water System Expendable Trust Fund, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 37: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$30,100 to purchase Map 4A Lot 20 (parcel consisting of 9.77 +/- acres located on the westerly side of Roue 63 and Spofford Lake and spanning from the end of Old County Road to Route 63) from the State of New Hampshire, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 38: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 to make repairs to River Road Boat Ramp, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 39: To see if the town will vote to establish a Library HVAC Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of replacing and upgrading the HVAC system and to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 to be placed in this fund. Further, to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

ARTICLE 40: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 for the demolition and removal of Wares Grove Cottage and, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (c). (Majority Vote Required)

There was \$30,000 encumbered from the 2025 Emergency Meeting. There was lead paint found that will need remediation.

ARTICLE 41: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$29,640 to support the following, or act in any way related thereto. This is a special warrant article per RSA 32:3 VI (d). (Majority Vote Required)

Home Health, Meals on Wheels	8,226
Monadnock Family Services / Mental Health	4,730
Community Kitchen	3,197
The Gathering Place	1,000
Chesterfield Senior Meals	2,500
Monadnock Child Advocacy Center	1,100
Big Brothers Big Sisters	400
MCPV Crisis & Prevention Center	950
Hundred Nights Inc	2,700

CASA	750
Community Volunteer Transportation	100
Southwestern Community Services	<u>4,014</u>
TOTAL	\$29,640

ARTICLE 42: To vote on the following modification of the Optional Total and Permanent Service-Connected Disabled Property Tax Credit, under the provision of RSA 72:35: Shall we modify the tax credit from \$2,000 to \$2,500, effective April 1, 2026. This modification is due to House Bill 99 that took effect July 13, 2025, that does not allow the Standards Veterans' Tax Credit (72:28) in the amount of \$500 to be combined with the Optional Total and Permanent Service-Connected Disabled Property Tax Credit. If this warrant article passes, no net fiscal harm occurs to disabled veterans as a result of HB 99. (Majority Vote Required).

The Committee reviewed the Capital Reserve & Expendable Trust Deposits & Withdrawals; and 2026 Estimated Revenues.

Minutes – Rick moved the January 6th minutes for discussion. The motion was seconded by Brad. Brad moved January 6th minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Alex and passed unanimously.

Town Quarterly Review – The Budget 97.4% Expended. Legal Expense was over expended. Alissa discussed the issues with Town Office Cleaning.

Ex-Officio Reports –

Spofford Fire – Tammy reviewed the changes to the Budget from the 1st presentation.

Chesterfield Fire – The Warrant was reviewed.

School – There is \$70,000 unencumbered from SPED Tuition and Transportation from an OOD Placement Change. 2 Custodial positions remain unfilled.

There may be an open enrollment article. The proposed number of open enrollment students accepted is 5 from other open enrollment districts.

Other – Public Hearing in on January 24th at the School. Deliberations are January 27th and February 3th. Town Meeting is March 14th. Election are on March 11th.

Adjournment – Leslie moved to adjourn at 9:18 PM. The motion was seconded by Rick and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy LaFontaine
Secretary