

Town of Brentwood Municipal Budget Committee

Minutes of June 17, 2024 site visit at Fire Station

Members: Jack Mitchell (chair), Jennifer Jones (BOS rep), Kat Niemiroski, Brian Duffy (Swasey rep), Gabbie Kelly

Guest: None

The committee met at the Fire Station at 6 pm. Chief Bird gave a tour of the station.

Jack asked: Anything on CIP that's not there yet? Chief: no.
Salary increases, depending on if they can pay them to take classes.

In the next few years looking to get 2 people in here 24/7 vs the current stipend (hopefully 2026+), which is getting harder to do. It may not require new hires, since they would open it up to current full timers, per diems and other call center staff first before new hires.

Chief has a very helpful group but if one or two people leave they won't have enough coverage.

Looking into getting a forestry truck - hoping it won't come out of the budget. He wants it to come out of the ambulance revolving fund because there's money in there still.

They're working on getting a grant for \$1.2M for a ladder truck. Their grant writer is retiring but is willing to do this last application beforehand. Hopefully will know the result by the end of the winter.

Staffing: still looking for a full-time person, but it's a poaching game.

Current staff is: 3 full time
7 or 8 doing per diem shifts
6ish call department

Running more ambulances and EMT and fewer building fires - but the fires now burn harder and quicker.

Uniform/Equipment washer and dryer - gear is taken off and washed immediately after each use. Gear doesn't last as long as it used to because the requirements for repeated cleaning have gotten stricter.

Since the washer and dryer appear to be expensive equipment, we should request Fire to look into when they estimate they would need to be replaced. If it is 6 years or less it should be included in their CIP report.

Air compressing system and equipment: Minor maintenance and in good condition; not expected to be replaced in the next 5 years.

Visit concluded about 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gabbie Kelly; Jack Mitchell, chair