

# MINUTES

## MIDDLEFIELD FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

FEBRUARY 23, 2016

PRESENT: Joe Kearns, Scott Artioli, Judy Hoag, Dale Hoag and Ed Vivier

The meeting opened at 7:09 pm.

The minutes of the February 9, 2016 meeting were unanimously accepted as read.

This week we will continue to interview the various department heads with Fire Chief Ron Radwich our welcome guest at tonight's finance board meeting. According to Chief Radwich most of his budget will remain the same as last year. The chief's salary will be \$500, inspections \$300, Hinsdale Ambulance \$1,500, and the total fire budget will be \$8,000. The Berkshire County Dispatch for the 2017 budget year will be approximately \$8,200, a slight increase over this year. Chief Radwich noted that he has obtained sets of used SCBAs from the Otis fire dept; they are much more modern and lighter than our older gear. In addition a nearby department donated 1,000 ft of used 4 inch hose, an essential ingredient when supplying water for a structure fire. He also brought our committee up to date on the various chiefs meetings that he attends. He noted that the feedback from the other departments on what works best or not is priceless, especially for our small department. With our new tanker, Middlefield fire can now supply mutual aid to our surrounding towns in a much safer and more reliable manner. Our committee complimented Chief Radwich for his efforts to improved firefighter safety and also the safety of our residents. Our thanks go out to Chief Radwich and to all our volunteer firefighters/first responders; Middlefield's unsung heroes!

At our next meetings we will interview our librarian, the COA chair and the highway superintendent. In other matters, Chairman Kearns said that we should know in the next week or so regarding the vocational account and the number of students that will be attending.

The committee continued to review the proposed budget, line by line, under the guidance of Chairman Kearns. A Special Town Meeting to pay old bills will also be scheduled by our selectboard.

The next meeting will be March 1, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

The meeting closed at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Vivier  
Secretary

