

# Mosier Fire District Budget Meeting

By Zoom

Tuesday, May 8, 2021 at 6:00pm

## MINUTES

*In attendance: Phil Evans (Board president), Todd Reeves, Joanne Rubin, Steve Fisher, Kris McNall, Wade Root, Joe Sacamano, Bryce Molesworth  
Staff: Budget Officer Chief Michial Renault, Janice from First Business Solutions (Contract bookkeeper)*

*Public: none*

**Call to Order 18:10 by Evans**

**Comments from the public: none**

### **Budget Meeting:**

Phil opened the meeting and turned it over to Chief Renault.

Chief Renault apologized for the lateness of the draft budget and stated that he had problems getting information from Salem because people are teleworking.

### **LB-10 Union Pacific Dry Hydrant Fund & UP Equipment/Derailment Reimbursement Fund:**

Kris asked some clarifying questions about past years. There was a supplemental budget filed to allow for purchase of the pumping system, which is why the numbers in preceding years don't match.

- Chief Renault added \$15,540 in spending for 7 sets of structure turnouts to this fund so that all firefighters would have two sets. He stated he did it because in the prior meeting Barb Ayers had suggested using money from the various funds in order to reduce the total number of funds we manage in our budget. There was significant discussion about whether the Dry Hydrant fund should be used in this way. Kris stated that the spirit of the UP agreement was that the Dry Hydrant fund would be used for either a water supply system or for the Joint Use Facility, and that using it for a more operational expense such as turnouts was not in the spirit of the agreement. Todd stated that we continually dip into our various reserves and that these spending patterns are not sustainable. Kris asked about a grant as our last batch of turnouts was purchased using a grant. Chief Renault stated that it is difficult to get a grant for a small number of turnouts and that there are no local grants he could piggyback on at this point in time. The group decided to use all of the Equipment/Derailment Reimbursement Fund and acquire turnouts plus a smaller amount of firefighting equipment and to reserve the Dry Hydrant fund for the JUF.
- Line 15 of the Dry Hydrant fund is incorrect in the budget as presented, but if turnouts are moved to the Equipment Fund it would be correct.

### **Grant Fund:**

- This fund was missing from the packet presented to the committee.

### **UP Joint Use Facility Fund**

- The group inquired whether interest was expected to be zero or some nominal amount. Although we are expecting a nominal amount, it is such a small percentage that it falls into the nice to have but not required category.

**Giswold Bequest Fund:**

Kris asked whether we should save this money for a year when we don't have the SAFER grant available for incentives. Chief Renault pointed out that just because money is budgeted does not mean that it must be spent.

**LB11 Capital Reserve Fund**

This fund has the same consideration with respect to interest as the JUF fund. We expect a nominal amount of interest but it will be small enough that it is not required to include it.

- Line 15 needs to be filled in to balance the budget on this fund.

**LB20:**

Kris asked the bookkeeper whether the available cash on hand corresponded to the amount shown in the financials for the LGIP general fund. It appears that it does. Kris stated that she now believes that the \$200,000 shown in this year's budget is correct, but does not understand the amounts in prior years' budgets. The bookkeeper stated that she could not explain the prior years' amounts at this time.

- Line 7 needs to be filled in with the subtotal.
- The group noted that the amount on line 10 was not correct.
- The LB20 for the 2020-21 budget on the MFD website is the wrong form and needs to be corrected.

**LB30:**

There are several line items where the SAFER grant will enable MFD to do significantly more this year. Chief Renault stated that he did not want to depend on an extension. The group agreed to leave the budget unchanged.

The group noted a few errors in the second page of the LB30:

- The number on line 31 is not correct. It should be 224,516.
- Line 32 should be adjusted in order to balance the budget between the LB30 and the LB20. Janice will work with Chief Renault to correct this form.

**Next Meeting:**

The group decided to hold the next meeting at 6pm June 1. Chief Renault did not commit to a date when the next draft of the budget would be ready for review.

**Public Comment:**

There was no public present to make comment.

**Adjournment. 19:42**

*Mosier Fire Board Meetings are accessible to persons with disabilities.*