

## **Board of Finance Public Safety Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

Date: January 23, 2012

Attending: John Pincavage-Subcommittee Chairman, Fire Chief Kingsbury, Deputy Chief Gottfried, and Assistant Chief Yost

The meeting began at 2:15 PM.

The FY2012 Budget for the first six months was discussed to determine any pressures that could cause any potential budget overrun for the fiscal year. A potential problem account is several lines in the Extra Help & Overtime account. Overtime has increased mainly because of the staffing required by storms and several serious fires including the church fire, as well as covering for personnel on military assignments and injury costs. The higher injury costs will be partially offset by insurance reimbursements.

The FY2012-13 Budget proposal is likely to show a minimal increase in program spending with increases coming in capital spending driven by need for new vehicles, computers, communications and maintenance equipment. The budget that will be presented at the workshop with BOF will likely be revised from what was discussed.

A wide-ranging discussion was held concerning the operating and staffing philosophy employed by the Department, which is driven by safety requirements and the need to be able to handle simultaneously incidents, if necessary. In addition, the Department gets numerous calls to provide assistance on I-95 with no reimbursement from the State. The Department made heavy use of the surrounding towns' fire fighting resources during the Saugatuck Church fire as it did not have enough of its own resources to effectively fight the fire.

The Meeting ended at 4:20 PM

John Pincavage  
BOF Public Safety Subcommittee Chairman