

I would like to make a statement before we begin.

I started this adventure Feb 2002 as interim chief when I took over from Chris, excepted the Director job (after 3 times being asked by the BOS) in June 2002 to start Jan 1 2003. I have been in my position for 24 years with every one of my reviews reading exceeds expectations. I have spent many hours of my own time working with the town.

During my tenure, I have worked with the FD members in building a professional department, improvements to the building, replacement of equipment and obtaining new life saving equipment, and replacement of equipment that meets the needs of the town.

Worked with Deb on obtaining two million plus dollars in grants funds, both fire and emergency management.

My wife and I helped with the new rec center by install all the electrical systems on a volunteer basis, along with working with my suppliers for the stock on donation and wholesale costs.

I have enjoyed working with many people and obtained many relationships along the way, and I thank everyone I had the opportunity to work with, good and/or bad.

I put this last budget together with my recommendations on how I feel the town should move forward. It does include transition of Deb's position to a full-time FF/EMT. The current position will be FF/AEMT, Fire and Building Inspector with primary responsibility of Fire and EMS Response. The new position will be FF/EMT, Training Officer, Fire Prevention, and FPU Liasson/coordinator. I believe this will best serve the town. There is a couple reductions that will happen if this recommendation moves forward. We would only need one per-diem shift Monday through Friday, 2 on Saturday, and Sunday if we add to the budget. It would eliminate one part-time position.

I also would like to state that I have made many attempts to get answers on the Building Department functions or Deb's replacement, at this time, this is the only plan in play. We have not considered advertising or training for Deb's replacement. This less than a month away and I would like to start having Deb train Homer.

I have not heard from anyone on the BAC about the submitted Budget, so I have only sat down with Max. There is some budget lines in 2025 that are under spent; however, we have experienced several issues with apparatus that put that line way over budget, so I cut back in many areas to accommodate the overages. It is not that the department doesn't have the need.

I have proposed a deal with Max and the BOS on a Transition Plan. This was for the town to extend my insurance coverage for me and my wife. If I was a state employee, the state

would keep me on the insurance. I also provided input on a policy to address this issue moving forward and to help with employee retention. During the last meeting I was updated that it would be a cash type agreement. I have met with my financial and benefit advisors, as well as a NH Retirement Rep and it is not in my best interest to take this offer. It would restrict me financially with my own plans moving forward.

Also, I have been informed that there is a member of the town that has called the Retirement Office and the towns Insurance Company in order to block and/or cause problems with any type of deal. Earlier today I was at a mutual aid call and was informed that this same individual is out talking disrespectfully about me and just wanting me gone. I feel at this time that it is best that I move on with my retirement.

I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as your Director of Public and Life Safety. It was a great adventure. I would also like everyone to please thank the First Responders of this town. They put a ton of time and dedication in providing the highest level of professionalism to the town, and also remember, they see and deal with things that no one is trained to see. Again thank you.

Questions on the Budget