

TOWN OF WISCASSET
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
July 8, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM at the Wiscasset Municipal Building

Budget committee members in attendance: Chairman Steve Mehrl, Judith Colby, Sherri Dunbar, Pamela Dunning, Judy Flanagan, and George Greene. Members absent were Richard Hanson and Tony True.

Police officers John Allen and Kathy Williams made a presentation to the committee to demonstrate the need for a new cruiser. The two cruisers that would be used for trade-ins are both high mileage and have many problems. Waiting for another year will result in added expense for 3 reasons. First, the safety equipment that we could put into a new cruiser now will not fit into the next body style being produced. Secondly, next year's model will come with a higher price. Finally, the two cruisers being traded in will both have about 200,000 miles on them and be worth less for trade in value.

The windows for the Municipal Airport were discussed briefly. Although the town does not currently pay for the heat, the company that does pay the heat bill can stop doing so at any time and Wiscasset would have to pay the bill. It may be prudent to replace the leaky windows while there is money available to do so. The town is also responsible for the upkeep of the buildings and this work will need to be done eventually.

Judith Colby moved to suspend the meeting so the Budget Committee members could attend the Selectmen's meeting. Motion was seconded by Judy Flanagan. Motion passed 6-0. Meeting suspended at 7:05 pm.

The meeting was called to order at 8:20 PM in the Selectmen's office at the Wiscasset Municipal Building

Todd Souza and Robert McDonald of the Wiscasset Community Center answered questions about the Parks and Recreation Department budget. Judy Flanagan moved that the committee approve question 2 for Parks and Recreation. Motion was seconded by Pamela Dunning. Motion passed 4-1. At this point, Sherri Dunbar entered the meeting. There was some discussion about the Parks and Recreation budget and the many additional duties covered by this department. Judy Flanagan moved to revisit the question. Motion was seconded by George Greene. Motion passed 6-0. Judy Flanagan moved to accept the article as presented. Motion was seconded by Sherri Dunbar. Motion passed 6-0.

Judy Flanagan moved to accept question 3 for \$8,000 to replace windows at the Municipal Airport. Motion was seconded by Pamela Dunning. Motion passed 6-0.

Steve Mehrl moved to accept question 4 for \$18,804 for a Police Cruiser. Motion was seconded by George Greene. Motion passed 6-0.

Steve Mehrl moved to accept question 5 for \$8,950 for shortfall in heating oil for the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Motion was seconded by Judith Colby. Motion passed 6-0.

Judy Flanagan moved to accept question 6 for \$17,920 for heating shortfall for the Municipal Building and Public Works Department. Motion was seconded by Judith Colby. Motion passed 6-0.

Steve Mehrl moved to recommend question 7 for \$20,879 for the repairs to the Wiscasset Fire Department ladder truck. Motion was seconded by Sherri Dunbar. Motion passed 6-0.

There was a brief discussion about our task for the Thursday July 10 meeting. It was stated that the focus would be on if, how and where to cut the school budget.

Having no further business, Pamela Dunning moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Judith Colby Motion passed 6-0. Meeting closed at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Pamela Dunning