

Wiscasset Budget Committee Meeting
Wiscasset Municipal Building
June 25, 2009

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

Budget Committee members in attendance: Steve Mehrl, Greg Shea, Richard Hanson, Sherri Dunbar, Judith Colby and Ed Polewarczyk. Currently there are three vacant seats on the Committee.

Also, in attendance were Town Manager Arthur Faucher and Harbormaster Peter Dalton.

Sherri Dunbar made the motion to approve the minutes of April 30, 2009 meeting. The motion was seconded by Steve Mehrl. Motion passed 5-0.

Sherri Dunbar made the motion to name Steve Mehrl as Chairman of the Budget Committee for the 09/10 fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Greg Shea. With no other nominations the motion passed 5-0-1.

Judith Colby consented to serve as Clerk of the Budget Committee on a temporary basis. Sherri Dunbar made the motion to name Judith Colby Clerk of the Budget Committee for the 09/10 fiscal year. The motion was seconded by Steve Mehrl. Motion passed 5-0-1. Greg Shea amended the motion to set a three month term limit and to revisit this position at that time. The motion was seconded by Steve Mehrl. Motion passed 6-0

The Committee discussed the selection of two members of the Budget Committee to service on the sub-group to oversee investments and services by Edward Jones Trust Company. Greg Shea and Ed Polewarczyk volunteered to represent the Budget Committee. Sherri Dunbar made the motion to name Greg Shea to the committee. The motion was seconded by Steve Mehrl. Motion passed 5-0-1. Sherri Dunbar made the motion to name Ed Polewarczyk to the committee. The motion was seconded by Steve Mehrl. Motion passed 5-0-1.

The Committee discussed pending actions regarding the Highway Department Budget and the RSU Budget. Arthur distributed a time line for the Highway Department budget process. After much discussion Steve Mehrl made a motion that the Budget Committee, through the Town Manager, recommend to the Selectmen to consider using the secret ballot process instead of an open Town Meeting to decide the Highway Department budget. The motion was seconded by Ed Polewarczyk. Motion passed 6-0.

Arthur suggested that the Selectmen and the Budget Committee meet on Tuesday July 7th at 7:00 PM to discuss the Highway Department Budget.

During the discussion of the RSU Budget the question came up regarding the building the Alternative Education department of the RSU is using and if they will be paying rent for the space. Arthur explained that the RSU will not be using the Superintendent's Office in Wiscasset. The RSU has acquired other space for their main office. Steve Mehrl requested Arthur to contact Gene Stover, member of the Wiscasset and RSU School Board, and ask for clarification on the use of the building and if there is compensation in the RSU budget to the town on Wiscasset for such use.

There were discussions regarding the meeting schedule of the Budget Committee. Greg Shea made the motion that meeting should take place as events occur until September at such time the Committee will meet once a month and after the first of the year the Committee will meet twice a month preparing for the budget process. The motion was seconded by Ed Polewarczyk. Motion passed 6-0.

Peter Dalton, the Harbormaster, requested that the Budget Committee visit the waterfront to better understand the conditions and future needs of the waterfront. Steve Mehrl made the motion to reconvene at the waterfront for the tour. Motion was seconded by Greg Shea. Motion passed 6-0. Having no further business the Committee adjourned to the waterfront at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Judith Colby, Clerk