

Wiscasset Budget Committee
Town Office
December 15th, 2011

Members present:

Chair, Constance Schumann, Robert Blagden, Bill Barnes, Richard Hanson, Norman Guidoboni, Joe Piccirillo, and Cliff Hendricks. Absent: Ray Soule.

The Chair opened the meeting at 6:30 pm. R. Blagden moved to accept the Minutes of December 1st with corrections. B. Barnes seconded. 6-0. C. Hendricks arrived late, after the vote.

General Discussion

1. Follow up on comparison of similar towns as Wiscasset. R. Hanson took the lead.
2. Question on 2% non-union raises. R. Blagden would like to inquire the reasoning. Example; the Harbor Master – is this position a stipend as originally proposed or not? Inform the public when voting on monies for the contingency fund. Should this fund be itemized? Should raises be included in the budget?
3. Town Bid Process – Fire escape at the Scout Hall; was it by bid?
4. Mason Station. Joe Piccirillo's suggestion. Possible use as a casino. Should Town Manager be invited to bring the Wiscasset Budget Committee up to date on the property? Should owners be pushed to pay property taxes owed? R. Blagden will call Augusta to get an update on any asbestos or PCP's present. Town Planner should be encouraged to make this #1 priority to pave the way for RFDP.
5. R. Hanson. Give the seniors \$11,000. Any monies they raise, they keep. The Town raises \$55,000 and currently the senior's monies go back into the general fund.
6. Audit Report. No action.
7. Insurance on Superintendent's building for frozen pipe damage. No sense beating a dead horse.
8. RSU12 State revenue sharing watch out; big changes ahead!

Round Up

R. Hanson and the Clerk will jointly contact neighboring towns as to how they manage their municipalities. Example: Town government Fire Dept., Transfer Station, Highway Department, Code Enforcement, Rec Center, and Town Planner.

The Chair will contact the Town Manager to set up visitations to: Sewer Plant, Transfer Station, Highway Dept. Waterfront, and Rec Center. C. Hendricks will contact members for go ahead.

B. Barnes moved to adjourn. Seconded by R. Hanson at 8:31 p.m. 7-0.

Respectfully submitted: Norman Guidoboni, Clerk