

Wiscasset Budget Committee  
Tour of Town Properties  
January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Members present:

Chair, Constance Schumann, Robert Blagden, Bill Barnes, Richard Hanson, Ray Soule, Norman Guidoboni, Joe Piccirillo, and Cliff Hendricks. None absent.

The Wiscasset Budget Committee departed at 8:05 a.m. for a tour of town departments, accompanied by Laurie Smith, Town Manager.

A. Transfer Station – Supervisor, Ron Lear

Question: Cost to replace present loader – how many hours?

Town mechanic does repairs, farms out others. Oldest trailer has a tired body and rusted frame, with noticeable cracks in the floor. It needs immediate attention. Personnel: 2 full-time, 2 part-time and 1 supervisor (2 class 1(A) drivers, 1 laborer).

B. Highway Department – Supervisor, Greg Griffin

The dump truck is showing age and dependability could be a concern. The pick up truck needs to be replaced. Personnel: 5 employees, 1 mechanic and 1 supervisor. Cemetery help is seasonal.

C. Sewer Treatment Plant – Supervisor, Buck Rines

The new generator is used to augment existing ones. There are 17 pump stations to maintain. Looking to upgrade track, mag meters, oil barrel, and pick up. Neighboring towns cover when needed. Personnel: 3 (2 class 2(B) license and 1 laborer).

D. Rec Center – Director, Todd Souza

110 seniors, 1,300 subscribers, 1 part-time chef, 1 assistant trained to handle additional duties. Monies generated – general fund. Good relations between Rec and RSU 12. Resident rates are kept reasonable compared to non-resident rates. Regulatory demands are a constant problem, plus fuel. Fund raisers and Mobius rental are a plus, increasing the revenue. The Director would like to have a cover for the pool, replace the lockers, and perform an energy audit. Personnel: 2 full-time, 40-50 part-time, and 1 Director.

E. Harbor Master – Peter Dalton

New pier – higher than original, railings and cement platform. Next project – Rec Pier.  
The Wiscasset Budget Committee members question how many resident and non-resident moorings there are? No answer.

Tour ended 11:50 a.m.

Clerk's thoughts – Just that!

Transfer Station is clean, orderly and well-maintained. Staffing is a problem for weekends and vacations due to union rules between departments. Overtime becomes expensive.

Highway Department is well-organized. Equipment is in good repair according to its age. Department Supervisor answered all questions up front.

Sewer Plant needs upgrade of licenses to cover vacations and weekends.

Rec Center – the Director is well prepared with facts and figures (mark of a good administrator). For the amount of its age, the center is in remarkable condition.

Harbormaster – is a thankless position at times. Perhaps encouragement and direction would help.

All in all, department heads were professional, informative and pleasant.

The Wiscasset Budget Committee thanks Laurie Smith and her interest in organizing our tour.

Respectfully submitted: Norman Guidoboni, Clerk