

Wiscasset Budget Committee
Town Office
August 18, 2011

Members present: Joe Piccirillo, Robert (Bob) Blagden, William (Bob) Barnes, Richard (Dick) W. Hanson, Ray Soule, Norman Guidoboni and Constance Schumann.

C. Schumann excused herself to attend to a family matter.

Bob Blagden then acted as Chair Pro-Tem.

The Board convened at 6:35 p.m.

The Chair introduced Jim George, Town Treasurer and Steve Mehrl who then gave the Board the intricacies and insight of the nuances of the numerous departmental budgets. Steve Mehrl suggested the Board have the knowledge on how unpaid taxes are figured in the budget. Jim George explained the workings on the TIF. Steve Mehrl asked questions on overlay expenditures. All Department Heads have monthly reports in order to track their accounts.

Dick Hanson expressed positive support of the Town Manager's skills on managing town accounts and budgets.

Chairman Bob Blagden questioned the Board re-writing its own ordinances, for example, Article 2.8. Committee Responsibility is well-written and meets our needs. Conversely, Ordinance 1.1 dates need updating.

Joe Piccirillo asked the Rec Center Department Head how many full and part-time employees were on the payroll. There was no answer. He was told to go to a town official who informed Mr. Piccirillo to put his question in writing.

Ray Soule said that any questions asked of Department Heads should be readily available, as they are managing public monies and personnel.

Bob Blagden said he will take it up with Chair Constance Schumann.

Round Table Discussion

Bob Blagden: Concentrate on the percent column of the budget.

Dick Hanson: Tax Payers' night.

Bob Barnes: Times where an article is voted down but repeats again.

Joe Piccirillo: Speaking for the Board thanking Jim George and Steve Mehrl for their insight and timely explanations.

Dick Hanson: Poor voter turn-out.

The next Budget Meeting is scheduled for September 15th at 6:30 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 8:10 p.m. Moved by Dick Hanson. Seconded by Bob Barnes. 6-0

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Guidoboni, Clerk