

Wiscasset Budget Committee
Town Office
September 15th, 2011

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

Chair Schumann opened for business at 6:30 p.m. Schumann welcomed new member, Cliff Hendricks. He will join the Wiscasset Budget Committee when vetted.

The Wiscasset Budget Committee input one item.

1. Warrant Article \$5,000 impact fee for Treatment Plant on November ballot:
Questions arose on the background and reason for not auditors call to propose budget request. Bob Blagden moved to accept. Joe Picirillo seconded. 6-0.
2. Treasurer Jim George:
Simplify monthly statement. Moved by Joe Picirillo to keep reports the same as always. Ray Soule seconded. 6-0.
3. Wiscasset Budget Committee Role:
 - a. Make budget articles easier to understand.
 - b. Optimize limited financial resources available to meet goals of the community.
 - c. Advisory role to the tax payers and Selectmen. Moved by Chair Schumann. Bob Blagden seconded. 7-0.

Talking Points:

1. Municipal owned properties: Vacant Superintendent's Office, Winters' property, Art Gallery, Boy Scout Hall. Gallery and Scout Hall need attention. Offer Hall and Gallery to non-profit organizations or foundations.
2. Funds received by Departments to be put to respected budgets.
3. Creamery Pier fees generated back to Pier account for repairs, not to General Fund.
4. Winters Property building standing value \$111,000, now \$2,500. Is this a wise decision?
5. Rec Center sold to public to be self-sustaining in 5 years. Goal not met.
6. Chair Schumann welcomed new Police Chief Cline. Chief outlined coming requests. Most refreshing.
7. EMS fees generated go to General Fund. Encourage participating towns to increase contributions. Prioritize?
8. Town Planner: Surrounding towns have none, often share part-time positions. Plan for the future, not bend to special interest groups.

9. Administrative Assistant: What is the job description? Do we need one?
10. Airport: Well-managed, on-line to be self-sufficient.
11. Combine Transfer Station with Road Commissioner.
12. Low vote, low turnout: Articles that are defeated appear again and again until desired result is achieved.
13. FOAA adapted in 2008. Inquiries to be funneled to Town Manager in writing, or ask Town personnel, if inconvenient.

Synopsis

1. Wiscasset Budget Committee impact on Budget Articles be made ahead of time before being drawn up.
2. Inform tax payers of Town business.
3. Job descriptions for Department Heads, Personnel, Managers, and Selectmen's responsibility, and follow-up.

Bob Blagden moved to accept Minutes of August 18th. Ray Soule seconded. 6-0.

Next meeting will be October 20th, 2011.

Bob Barnes moved to adjourn. Joe Picirillo seconded. 6-0.

Respectfully submitted: Norman Guidoboni