

Wiscasset Budget Committee

Town Office

April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012

Members present:

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

The Wiscasset Budget Committee commenced at 6:30 p.m. by Chair, C. Schumann.

R. Hanson moved to accept the February Minutes. Seconded by R. Blagden. 7-0.

Budget Format

Traditionally, Selectmen deliberate monetary articles, finalize, agree, then present same to the Budget Committee.

Do People's Vote Count?

When the taxpayers vote up or down a specific line item, that should be final. Why do the Town Fathers keep re-introducing it?

Talking Points.

The new Warrant formulated by the Town Manager deleted named line items in favor of "bundling". Citizens are required to vote on a group of articles rather than individually. Is this going to be the norm?

Apparently, the sixth man on the Highway Department is partially funded by 2000 hours from the Cemetery account.

The Contingency Fund is used for non-emergency needs (Example; raises to non-union employees). Too fluid?

Is it necessary to maintain a boat for the Harbor Master?

Concerning the Town Planner. Was this position a 30+ hour contract or not? What are the duties?

Bottom Line

All line articles on the Warrant should be listed separately, pass or fail on their own merit.

Tongue in Cheek

Town citizens were sold on the idea that the Rec Center would be paid for in seven years. At the ground rate of .10% 1/10 it would take 397 years. Doesn't this person have enough to do?

At 8:51 p.m. R. Hanson moved to adjourn. Seconded by J. Piccirillo.

Respectfully submitted: Norman Guidoboni, Clerk