

Wiscasset Budget Committee Meeting Thursday January 20, 2011

Present: Chairman Phil Di Vece, Richard Hanson, Steve Jarrett, Gregory Hammond,
Evan Goodkowsky, Constance Schumann

Absent: Clerk Steve Mehrl, Sherri Dunbar, Mark Johnson

Chairman Di Vece called the meeting to order at 6:30pm in the upstairs meeting room of Fire Station. Approval of Minutes from the Dec. 16, 2010 meeting deferred. (Insufficient representation from that meeting).

In the absence of the clerk, it was agreed that Constance will take Minutes in a generalized summary format.

Phil mentioned that the Selectmen's Capital Improvement priorities list is not yet ready to be shared per Town Manager Laurie Smith.

However, the Memorial Pier and the Federal Street storm drains/sewers and the Main St. sewers are already under discussion. Regarding the water/sewer project, Richard Hanson shared information from Mary Ellen Barnes at CEI of monies available from HUD, Community Develop. Block Grant, and USDA if Wiscasset falls 3% below poverty line. Dick has information, but the timeline on this funding is gone by for this year.

Town Manager Laurie Smith stopped by briefly to answer questions and update on events. She is attending the Waterfront Task Force Meeting in the Town Office Meeting Room tonight
Coming meetings of interest to WBC:

Selectmen's Workshop/Meeting Tues. Jan 25th at 6PM .

Investment Committee's policy recommendation to Selectmen on Feb. 1, 2011 at 6PM.

Some other topics discussed:

Difficulty of drafting a budget with so many unknowns...i.e. RSU, State Funding, Unions etc
Necessity of time consuming prep work to review monthly Financials
Redundancy of line items like Postage, Phone, Office Supplies, General Supplies in each Dept.
budget.

Gross Budgeting and tracking Lapsed/ Carried/ General Funds

How the Ferry Road payment of \$349,264.23 to be allocated

How adjacent towns handle budget concerns similar to ours.

Reminder to think about taking out papers for June elections

Budget Committee possibly drafting suggestions and recommendations for the 2011--2012 budget.

Agenda Item for our next meeting Thursday Feb. 10 at 6:00PM:

Steve Jarrett's suggestion that the Budget Committee make a recommendation to the Selectmen on what we feel a fiscally responsible 2011-2012 Budget should look like..

Respectfully,
Constance Schumann, one time secretary