

Moultonborough Advisory Budget Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 28, 2011

In Attendance: Advisory Budget Committee (ABC) Members Jean Beadle, Alan Ballard, Barbara Sheppard, Kathy Garry, Russ Wakefield, Ed Marudzinski, and new alternate member Tom Randell

Absent: None

Public: Nancy Wright, Jim Leiterman, Jim Morrissette, and Susette Remson

The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson at 6:02 P.M. in Moultonborough Town Hall Meeting Room in the land use area.

The Committee elected the following slate of representatives for the upcoming year:

Chair person: Jean Beadle

Vice Chairperson: Ed Marudzinski

CIPC Representative: Alan Ballard

Tom Randell the new alternate was introduced and he gave a brief profile of himself.

The committee planned its meeting schedule for the upcoming budget cycle and settled on meeting on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. Always subject to change.

The committee revisited and approved the minutes from 3/28/2011 and after some discussion it was concluded that the minutes would be issued as they were written and approved with the comments submitted by Russ Wakefield attached but not agreed too (Copy attached). The Minutes of the meeting of 4/12/2011 were also reviewed and approved for issuance by the committee.

Alan Ballard provided an update of the status of the CIPC. The CIPC is in the process of developing a Town asset schedule which will identify assets, useful lives and recommended reserves for replacement.

Ed provided information on the review of the School Reserves, which has just started.

Jean provided updates on: School Technology Meetings, Consolidation of the Town Rec. Dept and School, Fiscal year change, and Funding.

Kathy updated the committee on the outsourcing of Payroll.

The Committee solicited input from the public in attendance and a brief discussion about the taping of the meetings and dissemination of information to the public in sued.

The committee set the next meeting to be held at 4:30 on Thursday August 11th at 4:30. A meeting was also tentatively scheduled for August 25th at 4:30, both meeting are to be held in the town hall.

The committee will review the town, school and Library financials at that time.

A motion to adjourn was made at approximately 7:30 by Ed and seconded by Alan. It was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Marudzinski
ABC Member 8/10/2011

Comments from Russ Wakefield on March 28, 2011 ABC Minutes

1A.....Add my statement that I was placed on the board as a representative of the BoS and was a vehicle to transmit their wishes and thoughts to the ABC.

2A..... I would like to strike the statement at the bottom of para 2 where it states “the hundreds of voters I had surveyed were not in favor of continuing the ABC.”

That statement was never made. The statement I made was “Many of the people I talked to questioned whether the ABC was really effective and did we really need it”

2B.....Further, the statement the ABC “needed to be reined in or better yet, disbanded”, was never made. I ask that also be removed.

What I did say was “at some point in the future it may be, the BoS would deem the ABC as providing little benefit and dissolve the committee”.

That statement was in part a response to a prior statement I made. Specifically, that I in principle, agreed with ED Charest in that I questioned whether the ABC was going beyond the charge initially granted to it.

I further stated it was Ed Charest as well as myself, who felt the cost savings attributed to recommendations of the ABC, as well as the cost of implementation be attached to any proposals made to the BoS, School Board or the Library.

3A.....The first sentence of the 3rd para is very misleading to the reader as it provides for nothing more than an antagonistic comment at the end of the previous para. That elaboration appears to be a personal opinion of the writer and not based on the context of any prior statements made. I think the comment that I continued to “stress my belief” is a good deal off base. As I remember, this vein of discussion being alluded to continued because you people just wouldn’t let it go.

3B.....I request the statement at the bottom of para 3 be stricken from the minutes. I do not remember making any such statement, however if it was made I’m quite sure I would not have used the word “irrelevant” when describing a volunteers service to the community as I am not in the habit of belittling anyone in such a way. I can only suggest that whatever was said was misconstrued by the listener and in any event, the statement is clearly taken out of context.

4A.....In para 4 I did in fact state I would support my beliefs however, it should be added that those beliefs included those of the BoS as that was the full statement I made. Also in para 4, I absolutely did not make a statement that one of my goals is to end the ABC. I would like the third sentence in para 4 completely removed.

5.....Your explanation in para 5 mirrors the very statement I made at the top of para 1 with one exception, apparently my statement hit a nerve with the ABC which obviously somehow injured some members pride and/or egos as it led to an overall confrontational meeting.

I find it interesting the minutes of March 28th to be far more acrimonious than any previous minutes I could find.

I also find it interesting a comment made in the March 14th minutes was not again shown in the March 28th minutes. That comment states, “the committee questioned whether the town is committed to the idea of having a balanced, well prepared budget that results in the Town operation in an efficient and cost effective manner.” Ed made that statement once again on the 28th.

I must say I was somewhat concerned, and do you remember what my response to that statement was? I said, “Wait a minute people, whether any on this committee likes what occurred at the town meeting, it was the wish of the legislative body, and no matter what you might personally think, it was the right course of action”. The town meeting is always correct. I also said it should make no difference to this committee what the people think or want. Our charge is to simply work with the outcome”.

You also failed to note in these minutes that I on more than one occasion stated that “you can not get upset because some committee, or person or board did not like a particular suggestion or initiative the ABC might have made” and “that all initiatives are not necessarily useful in every situation”.

It seems a little of base to attack what Russ said in the meeting and gloss over everything else that was discussed. If you are all the professionals you say you are then I guess I would expect a little more.

In your charter for the 2010 – 2011 year you state you are trying to work as a more cohesive and collaborative board. If that is truly your wish, then accept that others have a difference of opinion and move on.

At the meeting of the 28th I had the feeling you all had an agenda and you struck out in a negative frame of mind from the outset. Unfortunately that prompted an initial statement from me regarding those towns’ people I had talked to prior to running for selectmen. I further feel the minutes of March 28 were written for the specific purpose of disseminating select information out of context.