



Budget Committee

**Margaret Allen
Dickie Garnett
Michael Golden**

**Robert Hamilton
Victoria Kilroy
Larry Miller**

**David Peck
Richard Stanton
Michael Walzak**

Budget Committee Meeting June 4, 2012

These minutes were prepared as a reasonable summary of the essential content of this meeting, not as a transcription.

1. Nomination/Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Vice Chair David Peck called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Those in attendance were: Michael Golden, Rick Stanton, Margaret Allen, Michael Wolzak, Bob Hamilton, Larry Miller, Dickie Garnett and Victoria Kilroy.

Motion by Bob Hamilton to nominate Margaret Allen as Chair. Seconded by Dickie Garnett.

Motion by Michael Golden to nominated Rick Stanton as Chair. Seconded by Bob Hamilton.

Margaret Allen stated that as the second newest member of the committee, she felt that she would need to lean on others for guidance but that she is open to whatever the Budget Committee feels is the best.

Rick Stanton stated that whatever the committee would like to do is fine with him.

All those in favor of Margaret Allen as chair – 2; All those in favor of Rick Stanton – 3.

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Rick Stanton was appointed Chair.

Motion by Chair Stanton to appoint Margaret Allen as Vice Chair. Seconded by Michael Golden. Motion carries 5-0.

Motion by Chair Stanton to start each meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Seconded by Victoria Kilroy. Motion carries 9-0.

Chair Stanton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chair Stanton read the preamble to the Code of Ethics.

2. Review Warrant Article Voting Results

David Peck stated that he felt that this year's election showed a very steady direction from the voters.

3. Review of NHS and Town Spending to Budget Year to Date

Town Administrator Fournier reviewed the town's operating budget, year to date. Mr. Fournier stated that the budget is on target, and that there are some transfers from line to line that will need to be done before year end.

Town Administrator Fournier stated that Aquarion Water is asking for a temporary rate increase of 12% as of July 1, 2012, and then a permanent rate increase of up to 18%. These rates will affect the cost of hydrants in town.

Chair Stanton asked to have the Budget Committee more involved in the Default Budget process so that they can get a better understanding on how it is determined.

Town Administrator Fournier reported the Capital Improvement Committee has completed its report for 2013-2018.

Victoria Kilroy presented an overview on the North Hampton School's budget, with an expected potential surplus of under \$30,000 which will go to the Health Care Expendable Trust.

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Margaret Allen suggested that the school publicize their Public Hearings through the school's email "blast" that goes to all those subscribed in order to create more transparency.

4. Post Mortem on Last Year's Process

Rick Stanton stated that he felt last year's process was very successful as evidenced by the unanimous votes by the Budget Committee members on the warrant articles.

Bob Hamilton expressed his frustration with being presented with contracts from the Fire and Police at the last minute, and would like more opportunity to present their opinions and thoughts as to how they would like to see the contract.

5. Budget Committee Member Assignments for FY2013

Michael Walzak – Police

Bob Hamilton – School

Margaret Allen – Fire

David Peck – Public Works

Dickie Garnett – Library

Michael Golden – Town Administration and CIP Committee

Rick Stanton – Town Administration and CIP Committee

Selectman Miller expressed the importance of making sure that the meetings move along quickly and that the business gets done without being bogged down by lengthy discussions that do not add to the purpose of why the committee is there.

David Peck adjourned the meeting at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet L. Facella,
Administrative Assistant

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