

Present – Rebecca Davis (Chair), Donna Murphy, Robert Fisher, Rosanne Adams, Phil Lytle, Edward Strong

Absent - Bill Jacques

2 members of the public present.

BUSINESS

1. MOTION by Fisher, 2nd Murphy to accept the MINUTES of May 27, 2014 as corrected. VOTE: 5-0. Chair concurs

2. MOTION by Strong, 2nd Fisher to accept the MINUTES of June 2, 2014. VOTE 5-0. Chair concurs.

3. Town Warrant Recommendations from the Budget Committee – Members made corrections to the document, which will be sent by the chair to the printer tonight following its acceptance.

a) Article 16 – The Chair has simplified the numbers for the residents. Doing the numbers our recommended budget is over last years by \$74,860. Calculations were worked out to show the amount of tax on a property of \$250,000 based on the three scenarios - LD1 being voted in; Board of Selectman Budget proposal; Budget Committee Proposal.

It was AGREED to put an explanation of the cost of LD1 to the taxpayer.

MOTION by Strong, 2nd Fisher to include in the notes our recommendation of voting NO on overriding the tax cap (LD1). VOTE 5-0. Chair concurs. Phil Lytle abstained.

It was AGREED that the Chair will add a column showing what the tax increase would be with a) the LD1 tax cap, b) the BOS budget and c) the Budget Committee budget recommendations.

MOTION by Strong, 2nd Fisher to ACCEPT the Articles as amended and send to the printer. VOTE: 5-0. Chair concurs.

4. Email from the Town Manager [attached]. Each of the points was discussed

a) Town Manager write an unbiased statement regarding LD1 to clarify LD1 technical issues upfront before opening statements. Brief discussion.

b) To receive advance copies of any handouts from Selectmen and Budget Committee. Town Manager to review documents for bias. The Chair noted that she has already submitted our warrant article handout to the Town Manager. She has heard nothing from him. Members AGREED that we have submitted our paperwork and not having heard back from the Town Manager have concluded that it has been accepted as being unbiased. We will proceed to print and hand it out at the Annual Town Meeting.

c) In lieu of an opening statement at the start of the meeting the BOS and Budget Committee make a 3 minute or less statement at the time of Article 16. The members were all in AGREEMENT that we will have an opening statement **as well as** exercising our right to speak to Article 16 (LD1)

5) There was a discussion begun about the merits of the ECIN green sheet and the orange sheet inserted in a recent newspaper. Rosanne asked that the discussion cease as it was not appropriate budget committee business. Discussion ceased.

6) The Chair stated that she does not have the budget committee's opening statement ready for approval. It was AGREED that she will work on it and send it out for review and then we will meet 12 June at 5:30PM to approve the statement.

7) The Chair asked if the Committee would like to formulate a reply to the statements made about the Budget Committee at the Budget Public Hearing on June 9th. [attached] There was a brief discussion with the members of the public in attendance it was generally felt that the remarks were not very professional and contained errors. It was AGREED that the Chair will draw up a reply and send to members. If anyone objects to the response then it won't be sent out.

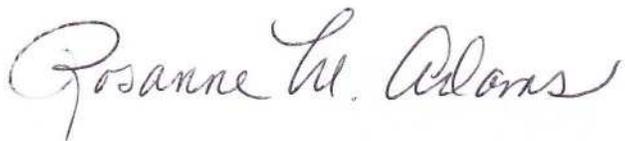
8) It was AGREED that the Chair will ask the Town Manager for a copy of everything he and the BOS intend to hand out at the Town Meeting.

9) Town Meeting Structure –

It was AGREED that the Chair will take the lead and speak for the Committee as well as making motions to amend the Articles. Members should feel free to speak to those articles they are knowledgeable about. Ed (Police) and Donna (Outside Agencies).

Meeting ended at 7:15PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,



Rosanne Adams, Recording Sec.

Date Approved: _February 24, 2015