

**MINUTES OF MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUDGET COMMITTEE
October 17, 2012**

A meeting of the Municipal Budget Committee was called to order at 6:30 PM in the Professional Development Room at Kennett Middle School with the following members present: Chairman Joe Mosca, Doug Swett, Betty Loynd (arriving at 6:35 PM), Ted Sares, Maureen Seavey, Greydon Turner, Steven Steiner, Michael Fougere, Peter Donohoe, Syndi White (arriving at 6:36 PM), Maury McKinney, John Edgerton, Karen Umberger, Danielle Santuccio, Bill Marvel and Mike DiGregorio. Excused: Brian Charles. Also present: Lucy Philbrick, Lori Roode and Lloyd Jones of The Daily Sun.

Karen Umberger led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ted Sares moved, seconded by Greydon Turner, to consider and accept the Minutes of September 19, 2012. In favor: 12; Opposed: 0; Abstain: 4 - Bill Marvel, Karen Umberger, Mike DiGregorio and Danielle Santuccio.

TOWN REVIEW

Lucy Philbrick passed out packets to the members concerning the third quarter. Lucy stated that on the first sheet of the packet was the third quarter expenditures and it is at the point where Lucy starts to lose sleep because there is 25.33% left for 25% of the year. One of the big problems this year is the Legal line. The Town is already over expended and most of that is due to the Transvale Acres issues. They are hoping that the excess that they have in Solid Waste because they didn't hire someone as soon as they might have will make up for that. Most everything is right on the button. Highway is a little low, but Highway has a couple of big ticket items: asphalt is spent for the summer and that makes a big dent in their budget and a lot of the salt budget has already been spent.

Ted Sares asked Lucy Philbrick if the Legal expenditure that went over was unanticipated. Lucy stated yes; she didn't believe that they anticipated that Transvale was going to be as much of an issue as it has turned out to be. Ted stated so in order to cover the overage, they will take from another area. Lucy stated yes; she thought what they would probably do is let the expenditures show in the Legal line, but another line won't be expended entirely. Ted stated because it's the bottom line that counts. Lucy stated exactly.

Bill Marvel asked Lucy Philbrick if on Legal they had any Legal expenses on the Library. Lucy stated no. Mike DiGregorio stated that they (Selectmen) did discuss budgetary issues with regards to the Library.

Ted Sares stated Point of Order. Ted further stated that he didn't think the Committee should be discussing the Library under any sense right now. Chairman Mosca stated he disagreed. Ted asked how the Chairman could disagree when the Chairman hadn't heard what he was going to say. Chairman stated because he thought talking about budgets and the Library

is part of the budget and they are talking about Legal. Ted asked that the Chairman at least let him finish; there is nobody here from the Library to really defend what was said at the Selectmen's Meeting so he thought it was highly irregular to talk about another Board at one point and thought the proper time to do that was when the Library presents its budget, so he objects to what Mike (DiGregorio) was going to bring up. Chairman stated Ted's objection was noted, but he thought the question had to do with the Legal Budget and the legal over runs. Ted stated the question has to do with the Library. Chairman stated in anticipation of legal costs and there is already legal over runs and he thought he would allow it. Ted asked where the legal over run was.

Mike DiGregorio stated to Chairman Mosca that Ted (Sares) accused him of not waiting for his answer, Mike's had nothing to do with what's going on with the Library other than budgetary issues. The Selectmen have decided by a majority vote that the Library needs to live within their budget. Any additional expense for Legal or whatever will not be borne by the Town. Ted stated that was correct. Mike stated you have your budget and you need to deal with it. Ted agreed. Mike stated that was pretty much all he wanted to talk about since we were on the Town Budget and the Town's Legal expense, he wanted the Committee to know that the Town's Legal budget will not go up because of that issue.

Karen Umberger stated that Lucy Philbrick had stated on the Highway that they have purchased the Salt for how long. Lucy stated she had said they have purchased a majority of their salt budget which was spent last winter. Karen asked if they had salt to carry through to December. Lucy stated she asked and was told that the Salt Shed was full and they have enough in the Budget to fill it one more time, so if we have a normal early winter they should be all set.

Steven Steiner asked on the Legal line what's happening with the lawsuit from Hannaford's. It was something that was in the paper and he was just asking if anyone knew about that. Ted Sares stated that's a Planning Board issue. Karen Umberger stated it still comes out of the Legal budget. Mike DiGregorio stated the Selectmen have not seen, nor have they discussed anything with regards to Hannaford's and the Court action. Steven stated so the Town has not been served yet. Mike stated if they had, it was not brought up at the Selectmen's Meeting last night. Like Steven, the only thing that he has seen is what is in the paper. Ted Sares stated threats have been made, but didn't think any formal action had been filed and even if he didn't think the Town would see any expenses until next year, it's academic.

Karen Umberger stated on Parks and Recreation, the Town is showing 6% left which won't pay the salaries for the rest of the year. Lucy Philbrick stated it would not, but generally in December money is taken out of the Revolving Fund and put into the Parks Budget and at budget time last year the discussion was that \$58,000.00 would come out of the Recreation Fund and go into this line. As she understands it, some expenses have been paid in the Personnel line for monitoring the Canoe Launch but donations were made for that and additional monies will come out of the Revolving Fund to pay for the monitoring that happened this summer at the Canoe Launch. Karen stated looking at the Revolving Fund, you show that it has a balance of \$38,500.00 as of 9/12/12. Lucy stated

it is also due \$65,000.00 from the General Fund. The cash balance is \$36,000.00, but the General Fund owes the Recreation Revolving Fund \$65,000.00 and she anticipates \$62,000.00 will come out of it and that will leave a balance of \$38,000.00 if it were to happen right now. Karen stated the \$62,000.00 will cover the salaries and the programming through the end of the year. Lucy stated she believed it would, yes.

Ted Sares stated looking at a Budget that has a quarter to go, he believed it was as sound as a new penny. That's pretty darn good. Chairman Mosca stated it's almost too tight. Ted stated that's the way it should be, spend all the money you have. Chairman stated he would like a little bit of fluff just in case; not a lot, just a little bit.

Lucy Philbrick proceeded with the pages on Revenues stating the final column "Revised" are the changes that she hopes to make with the Department of Revenue Administration when they come to set the tax rate. Lucy stated the third line in was the amount that was estimated at the budget time for 2012 and the last column "Revised" are the changes she hopes to make when they set the tax rate. Lucy stated the one big item was \$258,000.00 estimated for the COPS Grant which they didn't get so that money comes out, but the expenditure goes away as well. Ted Sares stated so it washes. Lucy agreed.

Karen Umberger stated it was showing Revenue was down by about \$200,000.00 excluding the COPS Grant. Karen corrected herself by saying she shouldn't have said down, she should say changed from the estimate that was made last year for the budget versus what they are going into the tax thing with. Karen asked if there was any particular area that Lucy (Philbrick) could identify as a problem area or is it just minor adjustments across a bunch of areas. Lucy stated that's what it is, minor adjustments. Lucy further stated at this point it has been a number of years since the Town has seen the State Revenue Sharing and she didn't think the Town was going to see that again for a long while. The Highway Block Grant is down some, but some of the other items are up.

Peter Donohoe stated he had a question on the interest on delinquent taxes. He was trying to understand it and asked for Lucy (Philbrick) to forgive the question. Peter asked if the actual \$273,328.00 is interest that the Town received or is that otherwise receivable. Lucy stated that was interest that the Town received in 2011. Peter asked if it was collected and Lucy agreed.

Lucy Philbrick proceeded with the Revolving Funds. Lucy stated the Recreation one has already been discussed a little bit. The Solid Waste is for the items that are charged, but that the Town pays to dispose of. The Police is for the Commercial Duty. They all have reasonable balances.

Karen Umberger stated on the Solid Waste Revolving Fund, it shows a balance of \$82,000.00; is the Town going to discuss that with the Selectmen about using some of that for work that might need to be done at the Transfer Station, offset taxes or whatever. Lucy Philbrick stated she was not sure if the Solid Waste Revolving Fund can be used to offset taxes. She would have to do some research to see what it can actually be used for. It was her understanding that the Solid Waste Revolving Fund would have to be used for Solid Waste, the Police has to be used for the

Police, the Recreation has to be used for recreation. She has not thought about it yet, but it's getting to be an amount where perhaps they could find a use for it at the Transfer Station or at the Landfill. They have worked proposed at the Transfer Station. Karen stated that at one time this particular Fund was in dire shape and she was really glad to see that it's doing as well as it is, but it may be time for somebody to consider what to do with the money but that's a decision for somebody else.

Mike DiGregorio stated to Karen Umberger that, as Lucy (Philbrick) had indicated, they have identified considerable issues at the Transfer Station and they will definitely bring it up for discussion when it's funded, when it's legal and they will have a lot more discussion as there are considerable issues over there and you will hear about that as the budget season progresses.

Chairman Mosca thanked Lucy Philbrick for coming in.

Chairman Mosca stated that there would not be anything from the School this evening. He did have a conversation with Dr. Nelson yesterday and he stated that he had nothing new for the Committee and the Chairman made the comment that the first quarter is over and that the Committee was looking to see how the first quarter numbers were looking. Dr. Nelson stated the first quarter wasn't until November and the Chairman responded that no, that was grade quarter and he was talking budget quarter. He thought there was a little confusion there. Hopefully Dr. Nelson would be at the meeting next month to talk about the first quarter of the School.

Chairman Mosca stated to Lucy Philbrick that the Committee had scheduled preliminary budgets due from the Town, would that be possible or not. Lucy stated that at this point Earl (Sires) still has to make his changes and it has to go before the Selectmen and that usually requires more than one meeting. Chairman stated so chances are that we will not have anything in November. Lucy stated probably not.

Karen Umberger asked if it was possible for the Committee to get the first quarter budget sent out before the next meeting so that we could at least take a look at it. Chairman Mosca stated he would ask that of Dr. Nelson. Ted Sares stated may be he would attend their next meeting and find out what is going on.

Chairman Mosca asked Syndi White if she had anything from the School. Syndi stated no, but asked if the School Board schedule had been handed out to the members. Chairman Mosca stated it had.

NEW BUSINESS

Betty Loynd advised that she had been building a house in Jackson and she is moving into the \$31,000.00 per student district so she has to resign as of tonight. Chairman Mosca thanked Betty for serving and hoped to see her at future meetings. Betty asked if Public Comment was going to be added to the Agenda. Chairman stated he considered that "Other" and if there are people in the audience he would always entertain comments. Betty stated she would still be attending the meetings. Chairman Mosca stated he appreciated that.

Chairman Mosca stated the process to fill the open vacant seat is that he will meet with Earl (Sires) tomorrow, they will put something together and put an ad in the newspaper. We will advertise for the open seat, we will get names, get information from people and then this Board will appoint a new member and that's the process.

Ted Sares stated that is not the process with all due respect. Chairman Mosca stated that's the way the process has been handled in the past. Chairman asked Ted to please let him finish. That's the way the process has been handled in the past. He has talked to the Town already about it and they have said that's the way the process is suppose to be handled. If Ted wanted to add to that, please feel free. Ted stated he did; in the past and he has served many, many years on this Committee and a bunch of other committees, when openings occurred, they had arguments about how to put people on. At one time, someone said they had to qualify; no, no qualifications, there is only one qualification and that's votes and that is the only qualification. Ted asked that he be allowed to explain why. None of the members had any kind of qualifications to get on this Budget Committee, we simply ran and we won or were appointed. There were no qualifications involved except that we were citizens. Therefore, how can we impose on an appointee qualifications when none was imposed upon us. The process is right and Ted asked the Chairman to take it easy, temper, temper. Chairman stated there was no temper, he just said what the process was going to be. Ted stated the Chairman was right, but asked to please don't make the mistake of now there are 4 candidates, who's the best one. There is no best one, who got the most votes. Chairman stated that's the way it is going to be done. Ted stated he hoped so.

Chairman Mosca stated the process as he sees it is that we will advertise, we will get names and, if this Board would like, we can call a Special Meeting, bring the people in so that they can talk to us all and then we will take a vote. It is going to be a secret ballot and whoever's name comes out on top gets the position. Ted Sares stated he would have to take issue with that. Chairman stated that was fine. Ted stated he still thought we should take whoever got the most votes, the next person that got the most votes. Betty Loynd stated no. Chairman asked of Ted was referring to the elections. Ted polled some members as to how they got on the Board. Ted stated the next person who is in line and he didn't know who it was. Steven Steiner stated it was Ray Shakir. Mike DiGregorio stated that's not how the law states it. Ted stated do it however you want, he was going to drop out of this; he's had enough arguments for the last two weeks to last him and there aren't going to be any more arguments and he would give his resignation right now. Ted further stated you can do it any way you want, it was okay with him, he wasn't going to argue.

Chairman Mosca stated the process is up to the Board, it is not up to him and it's not up to one single member. He has contacted the Town because Betty (Loynd) gave him a heads up that she might be leaving. He went to the Town and was told the way to do it, the way it's been done in the past which is to advertise, get names and then the Committee itself decides on who is going to be the person to take the position.

Mike DiGregorio asked Chairman Mosca for the return of a letter he had give the Chairman earlier in the evening.

Karen Umberger stated she didn't necessarily know or think that we need to appoint someone until April. She personally believes that we have, and unfortunately she hasn't been able to be here, but we have a group of people that have been working together since April and it's a good cross section of the Town and she personally would rather see us leave the slot vacant and let somebody that wants to run for the Budget Committee, run for the Budget Committee. There is no requirement whatsoever to fill a vacancy. If something happened right after the election when it was going to be the whole year, you might have a different thought process, but since it would be November and we are already into the Budget Season, to her we ought to just let it go.

Ted Sares stated that he loved what Karen (Umberger) was saying and that he would support that. One of the best examples of that was when Dick O'Brien, bless his soul, passed away and the Selectmen didn't replace him, they waited until April and replaced him then. He has always said that this Committee is pretty big and it makes a lot of sense to him, but the question that he has is if you had to replace or can you wait until April.

Mike DiGregorio stated under 32:15 if members were appointed by a moderator, they had to be filled within 5 days. We elect ours and it doesn't really clarify whether they still have to fall under that 5 day thing, but it does say they are appointed by the Budget Committee to basically, as you (Chairman Mosca) laid out, they come here and put their names in and it's over with. The Selectmen's Office is different because there is no requirement to fill that position; unlike the School Board that does have a requirement to fill the position. It kind of goes all over the map on what the law says. He personally thinks that we have enough time to fill the position. This Board has had many opportunities over the years; as we all know just these last two years has had a full complement of people and he didn't want to go back to the old way where you don't have a full complement. He would like to have that person elected rather than appointed by his peers or friends on this Board. He did think the Committee should advertise and see what happens. He thought there was enough time; he didn't think the Committee was deep into anything right now that somebody with half a brain couldn't come in here and catch up pretty quickly. We won't see any of these Budgets really until December. If someone is appointed in November then they'll have a month to catch up on what we've had so far this year and then they're good to go.

Ted Sares stated that kind of makes the argument that we shouldn't meet until now and he didn't buy that. If they don't really have to attend until now, what have we done for the last several months. His point being this: we have a suggestion that Karen (Umberger) made and what he would suggest is that the Committee vote on it as a group. It's up to the Chairman.

Mike DiGregorio stated look at 32:15 because if we follow the same thing as the Moderator, it has to be appointed within 5 days. Karen Umberger stated we don't have to. Mike stated he didn't think the Committee

necessarily had to, but it says under 32:15 that we may. Ted Sares stated if it doesn't include elected officials, then it must be that they are excluded, otherwise they would have been included.

Danielle Santuccio stated it does say that. Mike DiGregorio stated it says in municipalities where members are at large or elected the vacancy shall be filled by appointment to the Budget Committee. The line prior to that talks about the 5 days. It also talks about missing membership, too. Chairman Mosca stated we will bring that up at the end.

Peter Donohoe asked Chairman Mosca what the past precedent shows. Chairman stated that this was his third year on the Board; his first year when there were several openings, we actually put an ad in the paper and there was no response. That's why he went to the Town to ask what the procedure was and was told that is what the procedure should be.

Greydon Turner stated that happened to him 3 years ago. It was when someone came before the Board and asked to fill a vacancy and then the Board acted on them and then they were done. What we are talking about now is advertising for a position and he asked if there was a deadline for someone to apply for this position and then we vote on them or do we wait for that person to walk in and say they would like that chair. Chairman Mosca stated he would like the whole process to be ready to appoint someone by our next meeting which is a month away. Karen Umberger stated never going to happen.

Ted Sares stated to give you a stark example of appointing somebody by the Budget Committee, shortly before the infamous vote of 11%, shortly before that on that same night somebody came in, asked to be appointed to the Budget Committee and by 1 vote got on. That's about as clear a precedent in that area, might have been the wrong precedent, but the person got one and fortunately that person voted against it; fortunately or unfortunately depending on your viewpoint. That could have been a disaster. Chairman Mosca stated that person, he believed, had been trying to get on for several months and nobody knew what the process was. Ted stated that person was Greydon (Turner). Chairman stated the Board at the time didn't want to appoint anybody. Greydon Turner stated they didn't know how to do it at that time and it took months to get there.

Karen Umberger stated that of the group here, she is probably the longest serving member on the Budget Committee. She came on in 1999 and she has been here for all of that time. She loves Budget Committees and over that time, she would agree that we have proceeded in both ways and she thought that one of the determining factors for proceeding to add a person to the Budget Committee is based on the number of vacancies that we have. At this point, to the best of her knowledge, we have only one vacancy, this would be the only vacancy. She feels that we can just proceed and first of all, she didn't think anyone was going to challenge the Committee whether or not we have an opening, that's what the key is: is someone going to challenge us. We have already been told that the Town doesn't have any money for legal fees so they're not going to do anything about it anyhow. She guessed what she was trying to say as she goes back to her position that we ought to just let it go until April.

Danielle Santuccio stated she disagreed with Karen (Umberger) on this one. The language is "shall" be appointed by the Budget Committee if it's an elected official to serve until the next Town Meeting. Karen Umberger stated so long as it's not challenged. Danielle stated what if you are and then will any of the actions that the Budget Committee does take, is it then not a legitimate Budget Committee. Why even bother with it, she thought it was fair, shall be appointed.

Mike DiGregorio stated that's exactly what he was going to point out, it doesn't say "may be", it says "shall" and as far as the Legal Budget, we would be defending the issue and would have no choice but to expend money. He didn't think anybody would ever sue us over whether we did or didn't, that's kind of crazy to even talk about that. He did think if the law says we shall then the correct way to do it is to advertise, get it out there and if nobody shows up, then this conversation was a waste of time.

Chairman Mosca stated that's what we did 3 years ago and nobody showed up and then Greydon (Turner) started coming to meetings and, at that point in time, we said we had already advertised, nobody show up and we are not going to do anything. It was pointed out to us by the Selectmen, via Town Counsel, that if somebody wanted to be appointed and then Budget Committee had to appoint because that person was ready, willing and able to serve. That's what happened.

Ted Sares stated jokingly Greydon (Turner) made a nuisance of himself; we had to put him on. As far as taking a chance, after what he has been through this past two weeks and what he is going to be going through, he would guarantee that somebody would call it if you don't fill it. Mike DiGregorio stated or attempt to. Ted agreed; they will get on that shell like a zombie. They've gotten on things that he didn't even know existed. He is an expert on "Right To Know" and the RSA's now; he's been made an expert. Don't assume nobody is going to call, they will.

Bill Marvel stated his forte is language and grammatically speaking the mandatory aspect of the "shall" depends on what it modifies. If it says appointments to vacancies shall be made, that applies not to the Board but to any appointments that are made. If it says the Board shall appoint, then it's mandatory. Bill asked which way did it read. Danielle Santuccio stated "vacancies shall be filled". Bill stated so it's not mandatory unless you are going to fill a vacancy, then it's not mandatory. What it means is that it is mandatory for the Board to do it if you fill a vacancy. Danielle stated she disagreed that it would be interpreted that way. Lawyers don't do grammar.

Syndi White stated since there is so much go around on this, is there a way that we could consult with the Local Government Center for a clarification on this law and then from there if we find out that we don't have to appoint, we can make a motion to vote on not appointing someone or we may choose to do what Chairman Mosca was saying. She thought the issue needs clarification on the law and the intent of the law. Chairman stated he agreed and he thought he would ask Town Counsel for an interpretation, only because the Local Government Center, he went to a seminar there recently and they admitted themselves that they interpret things one way and towns and officials differently and nothing

has ever been challenged. He would much rather ask through the Town Manager to have Town Counsel state what their interpretation is. He is strongly leaning towards Danielle's (Santuccio) interpretation, she's an attorney and he thought she wouldn't lead us in the wrong direction.

Ted Sares stated he proposed that we leave it up to Joe (Chairman Mosca) to determine what way to do on this, come back to us with the best possible way after he does his due diligence. He is the Chair and let him do it.

Betty Loynd asked what if the only person that applies is somebody that is completely antithesis of her. Chairman Mosca stated it is what it is. Mike DiGregorio stated that she would have to stay in Conway.

Chairman Mosca stated that if the Board would indulge to take Ted's (Sares) suggestion, he will meet with Town Manager tomorrow and ask him to check through Legal Counsel as to the proper way to proceed given the wording in the RSA and he will get back to everyone as soon as he hears from Town Counsel via e-mail. Chairman stated to Doug Swett that he would get notice to him.

Michael Fougere asked as an appointment, how long of a term; is it just going to be until April. Chairman Mosca stated just until April.

Maureen Seavey stated if the Chairman is going to do that, she thought he should put a letter in the paper and it shouldn't be somebody that ran for office, it should be somebody that wants to be in and choose from that. Chairman Mosca stated it can be anybody whose a registered voter in the Town of Conway. Maureen stated and they don't have to have qualifications. Chairman stated no, there is a vacancy on the Budget Committee and all ye out there that want to be on, put your name in. Mike DiGregorio stated they just have to be residents.

Karen Umberger moved, seconded by Ted Sares, that we give Chairman Mosca the authority to go forth and do good with regards to this issue and whatever you send out in an e-mail becomes a part of the Minutes that we are going to be getting so that we have that documentation in the Minutes. In favor: 16; Opposed: 0; Abstain: 0.

Doug Swett stated that it was mentioned about somebody coming up to speed, it wasn't too many years ago when this Committee didn't meet from May to September. So coming up to speed for anybody, we don't even have any Budgets yet. He didn't think it was going to take them too long to get up to speed.

John Edgerton stated he agreed; he has been on and off the Budget Committee since 1975 and there have been lots of times when the Budgets aren't even considered until Christmas.

OLD BUSINESS

Chairman Mosca stated that last month it was discussed that if someone wasn't at meetings they couldn't get kicked off. RSA 32:15(VI) states:

A member-at-large shall cease to hold office immediately upon missing four consecutive scheduled or announced meetings of which that member received reasonable notice without being excused by the Chair.

Chairman Mosca further stated that if somebody doesn't show up to four meetings in a row, and they haven't contacted the Chair, then they are out. Ted Sares stated he knew that. Chairman Mosca stated there was some question in the Minutes as to whether that was or wasn't so.

Maureen Seavey stated she had this thing on Mark Hounsell and wasn't sure if that was Old Business or New Business or what. Chairman Mosca stated he thought it was basically covered by Lucy (Philbrick); nobody commented on the Library Budget. Maureen stated her comment was not on the Budget, but it is on a comment that Ted (Sares) made which is this is the Library Budget and she thought that the person from the Library and it should possibly be the Director that comes in and explains the Library Budget. Carl Nelson does the School and Earl (Sires) does the Town and whoever does the Budget for the Library which is the Librarian or Director should come in and present this to the Committee and not someone for the Trustees. Ted Sares stated he would pass that on; in the past he thought both of them did it. Maureen stated she has been on the Budget Committee for a lot of years and when Margaret Marshner was here, Margaret Marshner was always the one that came to the Board and explained the Budget, it was always that way. It's only since she has left that somebody else or one of the Trustees comes here. She's the one that does the Budget, the Trustees do not do the Budget and she should know the Budget better than anybody else and that person should be here to explain it to us.

Chairman Mosca stated he was only going from his experience which was probably less than most people's in this room, and that's why he was in this chair, he believed that it has only been the Trustee that's done it since he's been on the Board with the Director. The point is well taken that whoever puts the Budget together should, if they are able to, to come to the meeting. He was not saying that they are able or not able, so if somebody would pass that on.

Ted Sares stated let's assume it's a Trustee that's going to present it and let's assume that the Director is next to the Trustee, you have every right to ask the Director any questions you want. It really doesn't matter. Once the Trustee has said word one, he'd go after the Director, if that's what your design is. The Trustees over the last several years have presented it, but the Director has been right next to them and, in fact, one time the Director was here alone. One time the Director was here alone and did do it. He sees where Maureen (Seavey) is coming from, but it's kind of a Trustee decision he thought. The Trustees, under law, are responsible for running the Library, rightly or wrongly, that's what the law says. How they work the Budget, they work very closely with the Director on coming up with the Budget. When the Budget is presented to the Selectmen, both the Director and a Trustee goes. They interchange, he knows Penny Deans would go every time religiously and he would also go although he did not say a lot. Either one can talk. He sees where she is coming from and mostly it has been the Director in the past that has talked.

Maureen Seavey stated she disagreed; Margaret (Marshner) always came and as a Selectman, Mike (DiGregorio) doesn't send one of the Selectmen that really do not know that Budget completely. If you took some of those and they probably would not know that Budget completely like Earl (Sires) would. The Librarian knows what she needs for Technology, what she needs for books; she asks other people like the heads of departments from the Town come back and give Earl an idea of what they need and Earl decides. The School does the same thing; each school comes in and tells Carl Nelson what they need and Carl Nelson comes in and presents it. She didn't see the difference just because they are Trustees and she didn't think those Trustees if you asked them, if Tara (Thomas) wasn't there could handle that Budget themselves.

Chairman Mosca stated it is not our purview to tell anybody who has to come; it's our purview to go through the Budgets and make a decision based on the information that's been presented to us. We can not tell any department who they need to send. As long as someone is here to give the figures, we can't tell them who to send.

Karen Umberger stated that was basically her point. She personally feels that it is important for the Police Commissioners to be here, the Library Trustees to be here, the various people from the Precincts and most of the people from the Precincts are Commissioners in the Precinct. We have all kinds of things and the only thing that we are asking is that when they come before us, they can provide the information that we need. Who it is matters not to her.

Ted Sares stated to Karen (Umberger) one caveat and that would be representatives of the Trustees, Selectmen, School Board because he has never seen all of the Selectmen come out.

Mike DiGregorio stated he couldn't recall, but has the Director not come. Chairman Mosca stated he believed not for the last two. Mike stated to Maureen (Seavey) would you rather see like the School and the Town does a quarterly update, is that what you are talking about and would like to see the Director, the Police Commission or are you saying just that one time when they come to do their Budget. Maureen stated just that one time. Mike stated he thought she had been coming and asked to be corrected if he was wrong. Bill Marvel stated last year something was wrong. Mike asked if she was sick. Danielle Santuccio stated there were questions that were asked that were not able to be answered by the people who came. Mike stated he thought she came later on. Ted Sares agreed stating that she came alone; she did a good job. He remembers telling her that she did a good job. Mike stated he did remember because there was an issue but that she did come back later on.

Mike DiGregorio stated he did not see anything wrong with a quarterly review. The Selectmen are doing it with the Police Station now; hadn't really thought about it for the Library, but this Budget Committee has the authority to ask for those quarterly reviews from any department that falls under this jurisdiction. He did not see anything wrong with every department having to come in and explain themselves on a quarterly basis. Chairman Mosca stated he thought that if there were questions with certain departments, we would certainly want to have the department heads come in. Fortunately, the Town Manager has done a great job and has most

of the answers and if he doesn't, he gets back to us pretty quickly with them. He agrees that we can bring in anybody we want, but he would hate to have a room full of people here and have the Town Manager able to answer all of the questions. He is not opposed to bringing people in on special occasions. Mike stated when you get specific with the Police Budget, Earl does a great job overseeing a lot of things, but because the Selectmen's Office doesn't have the authority over the Police Commission, it is kind of a hands off relationship in many ways. For example, the other night the Police Commission came before the Selectmen's Office and we had all sorts of questions for them that Earl probably couldn't answer and he is sure that would also apply with the Library that Earl keeps a general view of what's going on over there, but there may be individual questions for the Library that he could not answer. Again, some people may not know, but they do have the authority to bring those departments before us.

Ted Sares stated one thing about Earl (Sires) and the Library, he keeps a very close relationship. God bless him; he's been a tower of strength.

Maureen Seavey stated she had one more comment, with everything that is going on right now, at the end of the year someone does come in and explain. If you have questions, we need to ask that person and make sure that person is here. Maureen stated she did not remember her here. She can remember Linda (Fox-Phillips) doing all of the talking and not answering questions. Maybe that was the time she (Tara Thomas) was not here, it could have been. Maureen stated she didn't think we needed to have them in now, but did at the end of the year.

Karen Umberger stated we should not single out any one particular organization. If we're going to have the Library in, then we need to have the Police in for a quarterly review. Ted Sares stated theoretically we could, but it would be a little bit targeting. Karen stated that was not a good idea.

Mike DiGregorio asked when the next meeting would be held. Chairman Mosca stated November 14, 2012.

Bill Marvel moved, seconded by Ted Sares, to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Iris A. Bowden, Recording Secretary