

**Town of Amherst
Ways and Means Committee
Date: Tuesday, November 29, 2011
Meeting Minutes**

The meeting came to order at 9:15pm.

Members present: Bob Brewster, Charlene Carper, David Chen, Peter Eiche, Dick Lefebvre, Maggie Paul

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from November 14, 2011.

Discussion: Discussion centered on the Selectman's recommendations for allocating funds to certain departments. Selectman or Town Administrator need to prioritize a list of essential additions to the budget. A 2% increase to the budget should be the goal.

Ways & Means members will meet with Departments and ask the following questions: "What would your budget look like if you were asked to cut it by 10%? What would you do if you could add an additional 10%?"

David clarified the question – we need to know (clearly & implicitly) what the direct effect will be on the citizens. What services would be cut and the impact to the community.

Ways & Means meetings with the departments:

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|---------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------|
| - DPW: Peter Eiche and Bob Brewster | Tuesday, Dec. 6 | 8am |
| - Recreation: Maggie Paul and Bob Brewster | Wednesday, Dec. 7 | 2pm |
| - Fire: David Chen and Peter Eiche | Wednesday, Dec. 7 | 6:30pm |
| - Library: Maggie Paul and Dick Lefebvre | Wednesday, Nov. 30 | 3pm |
| - Police: Dick Lefebvre and Charlene Carper | Thursday, Dec. 1, 2011 | 3pm |
| - EMS/Emergency: David Chen | Wednesday, Nov. 30 | 6:30pm |
| - Administration: Charlene Carper | Monday, Dec. 5, 2011 | 10:00am |

New Business: An additional Ways & Means meeting will be held Sunday, December 11, 2011 at 9am in the Town Hall Meeting Room to discuss recommendations to the Board of Selectman.

Next meeting: following Board of Selectman meeting in the Town Hall Meeting Room.

Meeting adjourned: Bob motions to close meeting, Dick seconded. Adjourned at 10:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Paul

