

Town of Amherst  
Ways and Means committee  
September 26, 2011  
Meeting Minutes

The meeting came to order at 9:15pm

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

Chairman: Dick Lefebvre was chosen Chairman by unanimous vote. Dick will organize the meeting agendas and all items should be sent to him prior to the meeting.

Committee Assignments:

DPW: Peter Eiche and Bob Brewster

Recreation: Maggie Paul and ?

Fire: David Chen and ?

Library: Charlene Carper and Maggie Paul

Police: Dick Lefebvre and

EMS/Emergency: David Chen and ?

Discussion:

What is the charge of the Ways and Means committee

Recommendations to the BOS

1. The W&M would like to support Brad Galinson's budget comments made last week and request that the BOS vote to direct the Town Administrator to prepare a budget that reflects a zero increase.
2. It is not the intent to eliminate services, but to bring budgeting to the barest essential services. It is also not the intent that a zero increase budget is our goal but merely a starting point in the process. It is much more difficult to start with a substantial budget increase however justified, and then try to cut it back
3. Efforts were made last year to establish priorities for department budgets which had not kept pace with the needs of the town. This should continue

Ways and Means would like to be added to next week's Board of Selectman's agenda. Dick will contact the town administrator.

Members should begin meet with Departments by the end of the month.

Next meeting: Monday, October 3 following Board of Selectman meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20pm

Respectfully submitted,

Maggie Paul