

Approved as amended Marylou Keane – 8-11-2011

TOWN OF EPSOM

BUDGET COMMITTEE

JUNE 23, 2011

**Present:** Marylou LaFleur-Keane, Chairman; Joyce Heck, Vice Chairman; Gary Kitson, Water District Representative; Penny Graham; Bob Blodgett Selectmen's Representative; Virginia Drew; Joy Tyrrell, School Board Representative; Dave Fiorentino; Ralph Weeks; Carole Brown

**Not in Attendance:** Brad Keyes; Bob Sawyer; Joyce Heck

**Other Attendees:** Nancy Wheeler; Mary Frambach

Dave opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Dave had the Committee members introduce themselves.

**Election of Officers**

**Virginia nominated Marylou as Chairman, Carole seconded the motion.**

Dave asked if there was any discussion, there being no discussion Dave called for a vote. **The motion passed.**

Marylou assumed the position of Chairman.

**Carole nominated Virginia as Vice Chairman, Gary seconded the motion.**

Marylou asked if there was any discussion, there being no discussion Marylou called for a vote. **The motion passed.**

**Review of Minutes of February 12, 2011**

The minutes of February 12, 2011 were reviewed.

**Virginia motioned to accept the minutes of February 12, 2011, Dave seconded the motion.**

Marylou asked if there was any discussion on the minutes, there being no discussion Marylou called for a vote. **The motion passed.**

Marylou had the list of members and contact information updated. She also had the duties of the department liaisons. She indicated the liaisons should contact the department heads over the summer, familiarize themselves with the department's budget and Capital Improvement Program.

Carole volunteered to be the liaison to the BCEP. Marylou will notify the Town Office of the appointment.

Marylou had Gary update the Committee on the Water District Budget. Gary noted at this time things look good.

Joy updated the Committee on the School District Budget. At this time the budget is doing good, they may have money to return to the Town. Marylou noted she would invite Mr. Connors and Mr. Aubrey to the September meeting for an overview.

### **Review of Year to Date Expenditures vs. Budget Report**

**Line 01-4130.1-609** - Carole asked about the overage, Nancy noted it was due to the purchase of the window shades at the Town Office.

Marylou noted it had been suggested the Budget Committee have a line for expenses.

**Line 01-4140.1-550** – The overage is due to March ballots and the number of Warrant Articles.

**Line 01-4152.1-100** – Marylou noted there was no money in the budget for the revaluation of property; also the Warrant Article did not pass. Nancy explained by law the Town had to be revaluated every five years. In the past the Town had a contract with Avitar, but that was not offered this year.

Ralph noted there may be litigation against the Town regarding some valuations, which was as much as he would say.

**Line 01-4194.1-411** – The heat and oil lines were overspent. Nancy noted it was due to the moving to the new office site. The Town is in discussions with the provider; the cost should be less.

**Line 01-4195.1-925** – This year's mowing contract is less than budgeted. The Cemetery Trustees are planning other maintenance for the cemeteries.

Ralph asked if the Police Department was up to full staff. Bob noted it was with one officer at the Police Academy currently.

**Line 01-4210.1-760** – The Police Department has purchased a new Crown Victoria but it has not been completely outfitted to date.

**Line 01-4220.1-430** - Nancy noted the department's vehicles have required more repairs this year.

**Line 01-4220.1-626** – The Fire Department has overspent the oxygen and medical supplies line.

Dave noted Emergency Management has many lines with no expenditures. Marylou indicated he would be having trainings, etc. in the fall.

**Line 01-4312.2-260** – The overage for Rental and Leases Sub Contractors is due to the amount of snow last winter.

Bob noted the work on Mt. Delight Road has been completed with work on New Rye

Road being started.

It was noted the vehicle and equipment maintenance lines have had expenditures. Both trucks and the backhoe now run on diesel with more expenditure on that line. Next year less will be budgeted for gas and more for diesel.

**Line 01-4441.1-150** – Virginia asked if there was a Deputy Welfare Officer, Nancy noted there is but she usually only assists during the holidays.

**Line 01-4445.2-813** – Ralph asked if this money also went for the residents living in the elderly housing. No one knew as the recipients are not public.

Marylou explained how she had the department heads present their budgets.

Ralph would like to see the Budget Committee be more open and held in different locations. Marylou noted the meetings are posted at the Town Office, Post Office and are on the Website. Marylou noted it would be difficult to hold a meeting in a different location.

Discussion occurred as to how to get the information out to the public and the fact that the public usually does not attend the meetings. Joy noted the School Board notices all parents and usually only two or three people attend the meetings. Carole noted people are apathetic. Virginia noted the Committee thought the minutes were on the Website and had them put on once they learned they were not. Ralph volunteered to help inform the people.

Rob commented if Ralph wanted to write something up he may want to present it to the Committee to have a consensus of the information. Marylou noted information could not be e-mailed to members, but could bring it to the meeting for public discussion.

Marylou had seen Dan McGuire in February. He mentioned meeting with the Selectmen and School Board to discuss the State budget. She asked if the Budget Committee would be interested in a meeting. When the meeting is scheduled Marylou will let the Committee members know the date. Joy will set something up for the School Board and let Marylou know of that date.

Joyce suggested as there is more Budget Committee members than Selectmen, the Committee may want to have them to a Budget Committee meeting rather than a Selectmen's Meeting. It was determined Marylou would contact Representative McGuire to set up the meeting.

### **Revenues of 2011 to Date**

Marylou noted building permits have gone down.

Nancy noted the Town has collected about 48% of the estimated revenue for 2011. Carole asked how property taxes are coming in, Nancy said very slowly.

Joy asked where Welfare Reimbursement came from. Nancy noted it was from individuals who received assistance and have paid the money back to the Town. Nancy explained if the person owned property in Epsom, the property is liened until the money

is paid back.

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday, September 15<sup>nd</sup>, 7:00 PM. Marylou noted the items to be reviewed at that meeting.

Marylou asked if anyone had suggestions for this year's meetings and presentations, no one did.

**Old/New Business**

There was no Old/New Business.

**Dave motioned to adjourn, Ralph seconded the motion. The motion passed.**

Marylou adjourned the meeting at 8:08 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Bosiak  
Recording Secretary