

Town of Alton  
Town Hall Meeting Room  
Budget Committee Meeting  
April 22, 2014  
Minutes  
Approved May 27, 2014

**I. Call to Order 6:30pm**

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Roll Call**

Andy McLeod, Chairman  
Ruth Messier, Member  
Lou Lacourse, Selectmen's Representative  
John Markland, Member  
Roger Nelson, Member  
Steve Miller, School Board Representative  
E. Russell Bailey, Town Administrator

**IV. Approval of Agenda**

**R. Messier motioned to approve the agenda as presented and was seconded by L. Lacourse with all in favor of the motion.**

**V. Public Input**

There was no public input.  
Public Input closed.

**VI. New Business**

**A. Election of Officers**

**R. Messier motioned to nominate A. McLeod as Chairman and was seconded by J. Markland with all in favor of the motion.**

S. Miller motioned to nominate R. Messier as Vice Chairman. R. Messier declined the nomination.

A discussion was held on the proposal of postponing the vote for the Vice Chair until a new Committee member could be installed.

J. Markland declined to sit as temporary Vice Chairman.

A. McLeod informed the Committee that there is a missing set of minutes that approves the minutes presented for approval this evening. A. McLeod asked the Committee to hold the minutes presented to them until he can locate the minutes that are missing. (The missing minutes are from a meeting held after the Deliberative Session on February 6, 2014.)

R. Messier suggested that an elected member of the Committee be appointed secretary to make sure the Committee minutes are filed with the Town Clerk as they are legally required.

**A. McLeod nominated R. Messier as secretary and was seconded by Lou Lacourse with all in favor of the motion.**

R. Messier requested that the location of where the meeting is held be added to the minutes.

**B. Review of Expenditure reports**

Hard copies of the expenditure reports were unavailable for R. Nelson and S. Miller so the reports will be reviewed at a later date. S. Miller will be added to the Budget Committee distribution list.

A. McLeod asked L. Lacourse for a Selectmen's update. L. Lacourse responded that the Selection have not done anything related to the Budget Committee.

A. McLeod asked about the snow removal budget. L. Lacourse stated he would look into it and provide the Committee with an update.

S. Miller provided an update on the plans for the school renovation that have been finalized and fine tuned. He also noted that fiscally they are not overdrawn on any accounts and that there will be a surplus.

It was noted that the warrant article for the PMHS roof did not pass. There was a discussion by the Committee on the contractor and the recourse the town has.

The Committee discussed placing an ad to replace L. Tilly who has resigned his position. The ad will be placed on the town website and it will be posted. The town will ask the paper to place it as a news item but it was noted that it is up to the paper whether they will place it or not.

**R. Messier motioned that A. McLeod write a letter to the editor and the motion was seconded by J. Markland and passed with all in favor of the motion.**

S. Miller proposed to have a revolving Vice Chair, possibly done by alphabetical order. E. Russell Bailey stated that it can also be done by seniority. The senior member of the Committee would be Vice Chair for each meeting. J. Markland has seniority and A. McLeod stated the Committee would proceed with J. Markland acting as Vice Chair.

**J. Markland motioned to accept L. Tilly's resignation with deep regret and thanks him for his service and was seconded by R. Messier with all in favor of the motion.**

A. McLeod read into the record L. Tilly's resignation letter sent via E-mail (copy attached).

**VII. Public Input II**

There was no public input.  
Public Input II closed

**VIII. Other Business**

R. Messier stated there was a previous discussion about setting policies, rules and procedures and believes it should be placed on the Agenda. R. Messier felt that last year it was very confusing and messy and if they are in the minutes the Committee can refer to them. She suggested that at the next meeting the Committee members come with suggestions they may want included. A. McLeod stated it will be added to the next meeting.

The appointment of members to the JMA Budget Committee will be done when there is a full Committee.

The next Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 27, 2014, 6:30 pm at Alton Town Hall.

S. Miller asked R. Bailey about the Highway Department building fuels which is over budget by \$6,600.00 for the year. R. Bailey responded that was due to the snow season.

R. Bailey stated that most of the budget was used for snow removal but that the town did not go over. R. Bailey stated the \$10,000.00 that the town voted in for reserve for the fuel overage is available and it won't be used unless we have to.

**X. Adjourn**

**R. Messier motioned to adjourn and was seconded by L. Lacourse and passed with all in favor of the motion.**

Adjourned 7:00pm

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Peggy Hawksley". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Peggy Hawksley  
Budget Committee Secretary

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