

**Town of Alton
Alton Budget Committee
APPROVED
Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2009**

Members Present: Karen Painter, Chair
Marc DeCoff
Steve Miller
Loring Carr, Selectmen's Representative

Members Absent: Greg Fuller, Vice Chair
Richard MacDonald
School Board Representative

Others Present: Members of the Public

I. CALL TO ORDER

K. Painter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

R. MacDonald and G. Fuller were absent. A representative from the School Board has not been appointed yet.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

L. Carr requested to add "Conflict of Interest" to the agenda. K. Painter added the approval of the May 21, 2009 meeting minutes to the agenda.

L. Carr motioned to approve the amended agenda and S. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (KP, SM, MC, LC / absent – GF, RM)

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was noted that there was not an actual meeting on May 21, 2009 but that there would be placed on the Committee's webpage as a "place holder".

L. Carr noted that he was present at the meeting (page 1), and that the itemized default budget was handed out (page 2) and that the manual was handed out later (page 3) L. Carr motioned to approve the meeting minutes of April 16, 2009 and M. DeCoff seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (KP, SM, MC, LC / absent – GF, RM)

VI. SCHOOL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

This item was on the agenda per request of G. Fuller but he was not present at the meeting. This item was tabled.

VII. MEETING REQUEST – SELECTMEN

There was discussion about the scheduling of the meeting with the Selectmen. L. Carr offered for the Selectmen to meet with the Budget Committee in July. S. Miller recommended that the Committee meet with the Selectmen in September due to the budgeting schedule. L. Carr noted that he would look into having the Selectmen meet with the Committee in September and get back to the Committee with the date.

VIII. MEETING REQUEST – SCHOOL BOARD

K. Painter reported she sent an email to Terri Noyes, School Board Chair to request a meeting but had not yet received a response. She noted she would call Terri to follow-up.

IX. ACS SPECIAL EDUCATION TRANSFERS

K. Painter reported she has not received the document about this transfer but that it was her understanding that there were no transfers to other budget line items.

X. JMA & BUDGET COMMITTEE

S. Miller reported that it was a little early to contact the members of the JMA Budget Committee and requested this item be placed on the September meeting agenda.

XI. DISTRIBUTION OF UPDATED CONTACT LIST

The Committee reviewed the updated Contact List.

XII. MAY 2009 ACTUAL & BUDGETED EXPENSES & ENCUMBRANCES

L. Carr reported that the Selectmen have voted in favor of cost of living (COLA) raises for the Selectmen, Treasurer, Trustees, Cemetery Trustees, and Water Commissioners.

S. Miller noted that the Selectmen had voted for raises for themselves during these difficult economic times. He asked who wrote the default budget and L. Carr responded that he was not on the Board of Selectmen when the default budget was drafted. There was discussion about the action of the Selectmen. S. Miller asked what the vote tallies were for the raises and L. Carr responded that the vote was a sweep vote and had passed by a vote of four to one. S. Miller asked if there had been COLAs for the Trustees in the past and L. Carr stated he did not know. There was discussion about the history COLAs and the default budget. The money for COLAs for the Trustees will come from an open position where there is no payment going to that person, so there is money available for the COLAs.

L. Carr noted that the June 2009 report would show the differences.

K. Painter asked if there were any questions about the May 2009 financial reports. S. Miller asked if there were any trouble areas where a budget might go into and L. Carr responded that there were none that he knew of at this time.

K. Painter noted that Computer expenses for the Assessing Department and the Planning Department were over budget. L. Carr stated he would check into it. K. Painter noted that over-time for the Police Department was over budget and so was Travel and Mileage.

K. Painter noted that the Solid Waste Department's Computer expense was over budget. L. Carr stated he would need to look into this and get back to the Committee.

S. Miller asked if there was any discussion of revenue shortfall in the town. L. Carr responded there has not been discussion about this.

XIII. CONFLICT OF INTEREST MEMO

L. Carr read the Conflict of Interest Memo issued by the Board of Selectmen to all town employees, boards and committees. There was a brief discussion about the memo.

XIV. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

M. DeCoff motioned to adjourn and S. Miller seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote. (KP, SM, MC, LC / absent – GF, RM)

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Krista Argiropolis
Recorder