

# TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE

Location: Wilton Town Hall: Court Room  
9:00 A.M.

## FINAL MEETING MINUTES January 31, 2015

*Members Present: Cary Hughes, Chair, Don Davidson, Vice Chair, Betsy Castro, Harry Dailey, Joyce Fisk, Caitlin Maki, Donna Pucciarello, Joe Torre, Bill Condra, Selectmen Rep., and Dawn Tuomala, Secretary*

**1. Chairman Hughes called the meeting to order at 9:04 AM.**

Chairman Hughes thanked and appreciated everyone for coming to the meeting on a Saturday morning.

**2. Review and approve January 22, 2014 Minutes**

**Motion was made by Mr. Davidson to approve the minutes as written: Seconded by Mr. Dailey; 7 in favor; 1 abstained (Ms. Fisk) motion passes.**

Chairman Hughes stated that there is an accounting problem with the funds that were encumbered in 2013 and those that were spent in 2014 and how to account for the completion of the Fire Department building addition. We will concentrate on the 2015 expenditures today.

Mr. Torre asked if the number is too high and how can we approve 2015 if the numbers aren't in good faith. The question is in regards to the percentage of money to be raised for taxes; DRA has been contacted but haven't returned the phone call to answer on the best way to account for all of the questions. Mr. Davidson stated that without that number we can't be more aggressive on the proposed budget.

**3. Public Comments**

The question was asked whether the public will be allowed to ask questions. This is still a work session but the Department Heads will be able to answer/ask questions in regards to the budget. Any question needs to be answered to make sure that we have the information clear. The Public Meeting will be next Tuesday night at 7 PM in the court room.

**4. Vote on Finalized budgets:**

**Town Department Budgets:**

***Motion to approve Item 41310 Town Office Salaries for \$8,900 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion:***

# TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE

## Meeting Minutes for January 31, 2015

Motion to amend the amount from \$8,900 to \$8,400 was made by Ms. Tuomala and seconded by Mr. Davidson; *All in favor motion carries to amend the motion; Call the question: All in favor; motion carries unanimously.*

***Motion to approve Item 41330 Election & Registrations for \$1,990 was made by Ms. Davidson, seconded by Ms. Castro; Discussion: none; Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.***

***Motion to approve Item 41300 Town Office Expense for \$319,912 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion: none; Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.***

***Motion to approve Item 41340 Legal Expense for \$20,000 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson; Discussion: None; Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.***

***Motion to approve Item 42400 FICA for \$ 56,540 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion: None; Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.***

***Motion to approve Item 42401 Police State Retirement for \$127,752 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion: Mr. Davidson questioned whether the State had passed on a larger percentage of the retirement fund to the Towns like they did with the teachers. The increase will take effect on July 1, 2015 and has been accounted for. Call the question: All in favor; motion carries unanimously.***

***Motion to approve Item 41360 Planning Board Budget for \$45,145 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion: Mr. Davidson asked why they didn't reduce the amount being asked for since they did not use all of the funds from last year. They are dependent upon the economy, the better the economy the more applications; there were some adjustments between their different budgets and the invoices have been placed in the regular operating budget; they have also hired a new secretary that will be asked to do additional work thereby increasing the expenses. The Master plan update is still in the works with three more chapters scheduled to be completed this year. Call the question: All in favor; motion carries unanimously.***

***Motion to approve Item 41370 Zoning Board Budget for \$3,531 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion: Mr. Davidson stated he had the same question as before since the proposed budget remains the same. It is due to the anticipated work load, if they have the cases this money will be used. They are balanced between the income and the expenses. Call the question: all in favor; motion carries.***

***Motion to approve Item 41305 General Gov't Building for \$51,560 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion: Mr. Davidson asked what the driver was for the \$3,400 increase was for the building. Ms. Atwood that they were planning on different phases of the roof repair since only \$700 was spent last year.***

There was discussion about Capital projects verses in the operating budget. They have encumbered \$10,000 for the roof repairs from last year. This year there are an additional 2 separate phases of roof repairs planned that will total \$15,000.

Motion was made to table this until the entire building project line can be discussed by Mr. Torre seconded by Mr. Dailey. ***Call the question: All in favor; Motion carries unanimously.***

**TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes for January 31, 2015**

**Motion to approve Item 41350 Cemeteries Budget for \$ 30,441 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion; Ms. Castro stated that the actual expenses figure is off. Mr. Davidson stated that they underspent this year but they are actually increasing for next year. This is due to the fact that they felt they didn't do an adequate job last year with fewer staff so they are adding a half a person to help take care of the cemetery grounds. **Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 42500 Benefit Package for \$ 245,018 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: None. **Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 42000 Unemployment Comp. for \$3,158 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: None. **Call the question: All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 42300 Workers Comp for \$28,000 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson;** Discussion: None. **Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 42100 Insurance-Liability for \$37,560 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: Mr. Condra stated that the Selectmen are meeting after the Budget Meeting to discuss coverage from 2 different liability companies. Their estimates are between \$42,000 to \$45,000. It was stated that the \$37,560 is the amount remaining for the general town after several departments such as ambulance, recycling and WWW were assigned their liability portion. **Call the question: All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Public Safety:**

**Motion to approve Item 41400 Police Department Expenses for \$683,483 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: Mr. Davidson asked why the budget was so under spent this last year and is there an opportunity to make a reduction? Chief Hautanen stated that expenses were under last year because there were unexpended overtime funds. They didn't have any major instances in Town or natural disasters that required overtime from the officers. He was able to cover vacations and sick time with regular time so he didn't have to use the overtime as much. He used about \$12,000 of the budgeted \$27,000 but he needs that there in case there is an incident this year.

The other reason he was under budget was due to one of the part time administrators had fewer hours for him due to an unanticipated project at her other job so her hours were cut back. Hopefully that will be finished and she can work her full allotted hours for the department. There were some lines that were underspent so that money is returned back to the town. **Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 41390 Police Station Expenses for \$17,298 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: None; **Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 41000 W-L-T Ambulance Expenses for \$346,538 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: The changes to this account were made for last

**TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes for January 31, 2015**

week. The other Towns have been notified of the changes. **Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Fire Department Expenses for \$118,668 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion: None; Call the question: All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

*Further Discussion:*

**Motion to reopen the Fire Department was made by Mr. Davidson due to a difference between the voted amount and the amount of the detailed sheet; seconded by Ms. Castro. Discussion:** The difference is due to the Fire Department Building being broken out from the Fire Department operating budget. When the two are added together the correct total amount was voted on. There is not a separate line item for the Fire Department Building. The same will be true for the Highway Department and Recycling Center. **Mr. Davidson withdrew his motion; seconded by Ms. Castro.**

**Motion to approve Item 41440 Building Inspection for \$25,034 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion:** Mr. Davidson wanted to know why there was such an increase since last week. This was due to a 3% wage increase that was added that had not been previously added. **Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 41450 Emergency Management for \$1,400 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion:** The increase this year is due to the purchase of a computer. **Call the question: All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 41410 Communications for \$134,385 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion:** Mr. Torre explained that the increase was due to a capital purchase of two new consoles for MACC Base this year. They are not allowed to have a Capital Improvement fund so when they need new items they have to purchase them directly and proportionately request the funds from the participating towns. They have a board of directors that consists on one person from each Town and the budget committee has a selectmen representative. They have tried for 3 years to get a federal grant but have not met the final requirements. It looks like this year they won't even be able to meet the cut off for the grant to even be considered.

Mr. Dailey questioned what would happen if they decided to purchase a new building would we have to come up with our share all in one year? Is there any other oversight to be able to avoid any spikes? Mr. Torre stated that it was possible and the only protection we have is in having a Selectman on the budget committee, hopefully there will be some advance notice.

They presently have 3 consoles but they are going down to 2. The third console is no longer needed since they have had a reduction in the amount of Towns using their service. The two new consoles have more capabilities than the existing three have. **Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 41480 Hydrant Rental for \$18,600 was made by Ms. Castro seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion:** This was discussed at the last meeting and this is the new number that reflects the 93 hydrants that are the Town of Wilton's responsibility. **Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.**

# TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes for January 31, 2015

## Highways & Streets:

**Motion to approve Item 41470 Highway Maintenance for \$485,862 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: Mr. Davidson asked why this account was way underspent. Mr. Elliott stated that the Stormwater did not have much used from that account. It was reduced this year and \$25,000 was encumbered from last year. Also driving the reduction was the contractor line for \$25,000; they didn't need to use it last year but he has already used it this year during the blizzard. The \$25,000 is there in case of inclement weather. **Call the question: 7 in favor, 1 abstention (Ms. Tuomala); motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 41490 Resurfacing for \$384,500 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: None; **Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 41500 Street Lighting for \$31,900 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: None; **Call the question: All in favor, motion carries unanimously.**

## Sanitation & Water Budget:

**Motion to approve Item 41530 Recycling Center Budget for \$534,238 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: None; **Call the question: All in favor. Motion carries.**

**Motion to approve the Municipal Sewer Budget for \$309,117 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: Mr. Dailey expressed concern that the public has the impression that the sewer is self-sustaining and is entirely paid for by the rate payers. Since there are shortfalls in the sewer budget the Town has to pay the debt. He questioned why the Budget Committee doesn't have more oversight about what is being spent in the budget.

Mr. Torre explained that it is a two way street and when the sewer department has a surplus it goes into the general fund. They are not allowed to keep the money and the balance is zeroed out each year. Mr. Torre stated that the Sewer Commissioners are talking about increasing the rates between 12% to 20%; the final decision hasn't been reached yet. They are very dependent on the Town of Milford and have to pay whatever Milford wants. They had a large increase this past year and were very late in giving their estimates. It needs to be decided if it is a true Town department or is it a standalone department or within the town. The Selectmen have the ultimate decision and authority to run the department and they have delegated the authority to run the sewer by the commissioners. The sewer does not have any say in what happens in Milford and we don't have any representation on that board so we are at their mercy. This could set up an issue to pit the users against those that aren't on the municipal system. This discussion needs to be encouraged sooner rather than later before it creates a problem. They are working on creating a Capital Improvements Plan and this should be completed later this summer. Mr. Condra stated that they have done a good job in upgrading the system and they are moving forward in replacing and upgrading of the lines. **Call the question: All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve the Wilton Water Works Budget for \$263,206 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** All in favor; **motion carries unanimously.**

**TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes for January 31, 2015**

**Health:**

**Motion to approve Item 41540 Health Department for \$595 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: This is where the \$500 is for the Health Officer is now located. **Call the question: All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 41550 Child Advocacy Center for \$2,000 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: It is nice to have the sheet that Ms. Castro prepared showing the usage by the Town of Wilton residents, they are very useful. **Call the question: All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 41580 Home Health Care for \$7,000 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** All in favor; motion carries unanimously.

**Motion to approve Item 41590 Monadnock Family Services for \$4,596 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: Mr. Davidson asked how much was actually expended for Wilton Residents and they show \$21,000 in discounts and \$6,000 being written off as uncollectable. **Call the question; All in favor; motion carries.**

**Motion to approve Item 41650 Milford Regional Counseling for \$2,000 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: Mr. Davidson explained that a number of years ago they had opted to give money to only one of each type of service and not to provide to three or four agencies that provide the same type of service. It is hard to tell who supplies what and that there is some overlap between them. Last year they asked for \$800 and this year they are asking for \$2,000. It would be good to have a chart tracking the amount spent in previous years. **Call the question: All in favor; motion carries.**

**Motion to approve Item 41630 Bridges for \$1,200 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: Chief Hautenan explained that this is for domestic violence and dovetails with the children but it is mainly for adults who are using it more. There is protocol to determine how lethal situation is to people and the service is available 24/7 to the police. **Call the question: All in favor; motion carries.**

**Motion to approve Item 41620 Nashua Area Health (Lamprey) for \$1,000 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: It was denied in the past, but this appears to be providing a service that we were paying for in one of the other areas. Prenatal may overlap to a certain extent. Caitlin hopes that they don't turn away Wilton residents but if all of the towns didn't provide, than these services would cost more than \$1,000. **Call the question: All in favor motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve the American Red Cross for \$1,659 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson;** Discussion: Mr. Davidson explained that he felt this was more of a personal contribution than one for the Town.

**Motion to change the amount to zero was made by Mr. Davidson and seconded by Mr. Torre:** Discussion: They were here at Thanksgiving Time. Chief Dick explained that recently when they are called they show up. They brought a trailer full of bedding and food which stayed in the parking lot for 2 weeks. They put people up in local hotels when there was a fire. Compared to what they used to do this is a big turnaround. It is known that the organization is very top heavy with a small

# TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE

## Meeting Minutes for January 31, 2015

percentage actually making down to those who need help. **Mr. Davison withdrew the motion, seconded by Mr. Torre.**

**Motion was made by Mr. Torre to amend the number to \$500 seconded by Mr. Davidson.**

Discussion: about how arbitrary the number they asked for was and what was the rational.

**Call question to amend the request to 500: All in favor; amount amended to \$500. Call question on the \$500; 6 in favor; 3 opposed; motion passes at \$500.**

**Motion was made to approve the Souhegan Valley Rides for \$1,500 by Ms. Castro and seconded by Mr. Davidson.**

Discussion; The Blue bus provides pick up services to the disabled and the elderly and takes them to Doctor Appointments and grocery shopping etc. This was started part way through the year last year and the Lions Club and the Milford Rotary paid for the service to Wilton residents but they aren't in a position to be able to do it again this year. Mr. Condra stated that they have been very satisfied with the service to the Town and would like to see the bus stay.

**Call the Question: All in favor: motion passes unanimously.**

**Motion was made to approve CASA for \$500 was made by Ms. Castro and seconded by Mr. Davidson.**

Discussion: Chief Hautenan doesn't deal with them directly but they do get assigned and he has no way of knowing how many of the residents are from Wilton. **Call the question: 2 in favor; 7 opposed; motion fails.**

### Welfare:

**Motion to approve Item 41570 Aid to Disabled St. Joseph's for \$1,125 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. All in favor; motion carries.**

**Motion to approve Item 41660 Welfare General Assistance for \$45,975 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. All in favor.**

### Culture & Recreation:

**Motion to approve Item 41670 Parks & Playgrounds for \$17,855 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 41710 Library for \$256,331 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.**

Discussion: Ms. Castro explained that the rains of a couple of weeks ago was the worst yet and that there was money put in the budget for the cleanup. Also included in the increase from last week were the addition of FICA, unemployment and retirement fees. Mr. Torre questioned why there was a 5% increase and not the 3% increase as requested. This was due to the fact that they hired a more experienced worker who will be receiving more pay than what the previous person was making. They are fortunate to have this person because they are in competition with other Towns as well as the schools. The overall pay increase was only 3%. Mr. Browne stated that they have had 4 floods since last March and there was \$2,400 to \$2,600 extra requested last year for them. **Call the Question: 8 in favor; 1 opposed (Mr. Davidson) motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 41730 Memorial Day for \$750 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.**

Discussion: Mr. Dailey would like to see money set to help beautify the Town, especially during December when there is hardly a light on on the Main Street. This is a draw for

# TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE

## Meeting Minutes for January 31, 2015

small towns to provide this and gives character to the town. **Call the question: All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 41680 W-L Youth Center/Goss Park for \$21,300 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: Ms. Castro explained that their request is up due to a decline in their membership last year since it was a cold and wet season and an increase in insurance. They also need to hire someone to do the arts and crafts and they are having drainage issues in the parking lot. **Call the Question; All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Motion to approve Item 41750 Conservation Commission for \$5,700 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: Mr. Davidson asked why the budget was up so much. Mr. Hunter explained that they had a discussion with the Selectmen and they need to build a gate near Mark Gables house so that they can have better parking off the street and still be able to get the emergency vehicles up to Frog Pond. There is an existing ROW there now but it hasn't been maintained. They have also purchased a culvert for the crossing. They will be looking into updating the NRI and add the easements purchased since 2009. **Call question: 7 in favor; 1 opposed (Davidson); 1 abstention (Ms. Tuomala). Motion passes.**

**Motion was made by Mr. Davidson to take a brief recess, seconded by Ms. Maki. All in favor; recessed at 10:30 AM. Chairman Hughes called the Budget Committee back in session at 10:45 AM.**

**Motion to approve Item 41740 Heritage Commission for \$700 was made by Ms. Castro seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion: none. Call the question: All in favor; Motion carries. unanimously**

**Motion to approve Item 41720 Main Street Association for \$5,000 was made by Mr. Dailey, seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: Ms. Castro stated that last week the vote was made to reduce the amount for \$10,000 to \$5,000 without Main Street representation being there. Mr. Hughes stated that the \$10,000 should be put back into the requested column and that if there is a change that be placed in the approved column, so the request should be for \$10,000.

Motion was made to reopen the Main Street and proposing \$5,000 instead of the \$10,000 seconded by Mr. Dailey.

Discussion: Mr. McBee stated that whatever is considered for spending on Main Street is good. They are trying to make a house a home and to make it warm, welcoming and comforting. They will work on far less funding than if the Town were to do it on their own. He was happy that we pointed out the discrepancy in accounting and that the practice has been curtailed. Going forward they would like to bring people into town to enable the merchants to see their goods. There are banners being planned for the Main Street; recently there was a tour of the empty spaces in three towns. They are getting the various committees together to bring in a car show and an apple festival in the fall.

There was discussion about the businesses contributing to the festivals and if there were donations since a sizeable piece is for the benefit of the businesses. A healthy downtown is a happy downtown. Many of the merchants are unable to contribute much to the festivals. They are trying to expand beyond the Main Street to reach up into the hills and down the roads so that it is town wide. Mr. Dailey expressed having more transparency and that just stopping the practice says there is justification that there needs to be a better understanding what full transparency is.

**TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes for January 31, 2015**

There was discussion about whether Main Street was acting more like a Chamber of Commerce or a business association. Legally they file a 501(c) 3 and not a 6 and the Main Street works beyond beautification. There was discussion about having several small organizations and if they all were to come in for money. There is a partnership with other communities to have the businesses form their own association. Mr. McBee was taking the stipend as an acting program manager since he has put 500 hours last year into Main Street and the organization has put in over 1,400 hours. When the hours are translated into town dollars it is a large amount of money.

Ms. Pucciarello stated that for the past 5 years they have been granted \$10,000; in 2014 they were granted \$5,000; what was eliminated by the reduction of the \$5,000. There is no longer a part time program manager who acts as the glue to keep things together. The volunteerism of today is different than it used to be. Today it works to ask a person to take care of one thing and not to oversee many. They still have bills to pay such as insurance and lights. They are going after a grant to help fund the Farmers Market which would be 50% of the costs.

Mr. Hunter stated that he was one of the founding members who brought the organization into Town. Being part of the Design Committee they made and now repair and maintain the flower boxes on Main Street. Many of the businesses are financially close to the bone and they don't have extra money in their kitty to contribute as a result of the recession. There was originally fund raising and people contributing which has since dried up. The only way to stay in existence is to ask the town for money. There used to be a real purpose that was dictated by geography that was defined by the National Main Street Association but today there is a little more leeway so they can bring other businesses into the picture.

Motion was made by Mr. Davidson to change the amount to zero, seconded by Mr. Dailey; 3 in favor and 4 opposed; 1 abstaining (Ms. Castro). Motion fails.

Discussion: Mr. Torre stated that the original concept was that the organization be self sustaining but last year they came in and that has since changed. By paying for a manager that is expending tax payer dollars and whether it is worth it or not.

**Call the original question for \$5,000; 5 in favor; 3 opposed; 1 abstained (Ms. Castro).**

***Motion to approve Wilton Community Center for \$1,500 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion: none. Call the question: 5 in favor 3 opposed; Motion carries.***

**Debt Service:**

***Motion to approve the Fire Station Addition Debt Service Payment for \$66,193 was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. All in favor; motion carries unanimously.***

**Capital Outlay:**

***Article 4: Motion to approve the Town Hall Repairs Energy Audit for \$58,773 monies to be raised by taxation was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson.*** Discussion: Mr. Torre questioned why only \$20,000 was taken out of the Capital Reserve Fund and that less than half is being utilized. What is the benefit of having the Capital Reserve Fund if it isn't to help offset taxes. This account isn't making any money on the small amount that is presently in there. Mr. Davidson would like to see a significant amount used to cover this article since. This

**TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes for January 31, 2015**

should be applied to every article that there are funds in that can be withdrawn to help offset the 20% increase in taxes. Mr. Condra stated that they approved this article 3 to 0 the board wouldn't have any objection to revisiting this and considering taking more money out of the Capital Reserve Fund. There was discussion about the \$9,000 for the handicapped ramp and where that would best be placed in the operating budget or as part of the Warrant Article.

***Motion was made by Mr. Dailey to send back a recommendation that the Selectmen consider taking out as much as possible out of the Capital Reserve Fund for this project; seconded by Mr. Torre. All in favor motion passes.***

***Motion was made to table the article until we hear back from the Selectmen was made by Mr. Dailey and seconded by Mr. Torre. All in favor; motion carries.***

***Motion was made by Mr. Davidson to reopen the General Government Building Account No 41305 and seconded by Mr. Dailey; All in favor to reopen; motion carries.***

***Motion was made by Mr. Davidson to approve \$51,560; seconded by Mr. Dailey; all in favor; motion carries unanimously.***

***Motion was made by Mr. Dailey to reopen Article 4; seconded by Mr. Davidson; All in favor of reopening Article 4.***

***Motion was made by Mr. Davidson to add \$9,230 for handicapped landings, ramps and railings be added to the \$58,773 for a total amount of \$68,003 and to recommend to the Selectmen that the Selectmen take money out of the Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose; seconded by Mr. Dailey.***

Discussion as to whether it meets the current handicapped regulations. Mr. Condra stated that it does not but that there isn't a regulation that requires it be brought up to the standards of today. When it is changed then it will have to come up current codes and into compliance with the present day standards. They have a physically challenged employee who needs to have the improved access to the building.

***Call the question at \$68,003 all in favor; motion carries unanimously.***

To clarify the recommendation is to add the handicapped ramp to the warrant article and to take more money out of the Capital Reserve Fund than the original proposal. Mr. Condra is reluctant to take it all out and reduce the amount to zero as they would like to re-establish money in that account.

***Article 5: Motion to approve the purchase the replacement of a Police Cruiser for \$43,605 and withdrawing \$10,000 from the Police Equipment Reserve Fund was made by Ms. Castro and seconded by Mr. Davidson. Discussion: The selectmen didn't discuss this article. Mr. Davidson wanted to clarify who decides how much comes out from capital reserve. Mr. Hughes stated that it is the responsibility of the Selectmen to write the warrants and it has been our practice to assist with that process but it is the selectmen that have the authority and responsibility. There was discussion about whether we should approve these first or whether it should come from the Selectmen. Ten thousand was the number since the SUV will be purchased next year and that will require more funding. Call the question: All in favor; motion passes unanimously.***

# **TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE**

## **Meeting Minutes for January 31, 2015**

**Article 6: Motion was made to Repair the Library Drainage for \$31,000 was made by Ms. Castro and seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: Mr. Davidson pointed out that there is \$54,000 in the Capital Reserve Fund and we should be taking some money out of that account for this repair. This account was set up for the roof repairs which are now being addressed in small amounts in the operating budget. They are working on small sections of it every year for up to \$10,000. Mr. Browne has issues with taking all of the money out since at some point in time they will need to have more than \$10,000 in repairs for the roof. There will be a larger expenditure coming some year and without it there will be a significant impact on the tax rate. Mr. Torre pointed out that we don't have their future expenditures at this point so we don't know how long or how much will be needed. This will need to be updated to be able to project in the CIP plan.

**Motion was made to recommend to the Selectmen to take an amount out of the Capital Reserve Fund. 7 in favor; 2 opposed; motion carries.**

**Motion was made by Mr. Davidson to table Article 6 and seconded by Mr. Dailey; All in favor; motion passes unanimously.**

**Article 7: Motion was made to approve \$17,000 for blasting of the ledge for foundation repairs was made by Ms. Castro and seconded by Mr. Davidson.**

**Motion was made to recommend to the Selectmen to take the money out of the Capital Reserve Fund to offset the \$17,000 was made by Ms. Castro and seconded by Mr. Davidson. 7 favor; 1 opposed (Ms. Castro); Motion carries.**

**Motion was made by Mr. Davidson to table Article 7 and seconded by Mr. Dailey; All in favor; motion passes unanimously.**

**Article 8: Motion was made to purchase a F550 1 ton pickup with equipment for \$73,354 was made by Ms. Castro and seconded by Mr. Davidson. All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 9: Motion was made to purchase a Stryker Power Stretcher for the 2007 Ambulance for \$19,000 was made by Ms. Castro and seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: Wilton is responsible for \$10,450, Lyndeborough is responsible for 4,750 and Temple is responsible for \$3,800. **Call the question: All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 11 to become Article 10: Motion was made to purchase an air Breathing Compressor for the Fire Department for 36,000 was made by Ms. Castro and seconded by Mr. Davidson. All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 12 to become Article 11: Motion was made to approve the closure the Fire Station Renovation/Addition Building Capital Reserve Fund for \$1,774 was made by Ms. Castro and seconded by Mr. Davidson. All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

# TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes for January 31, 2015

## Capital Reserve Funds:

**Article 10 to become Article 12: Motion to approve \$32,000 to be put in the Ambulance Capital Reserve Fund was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. All in favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 13: Motion was made to approve \$15,000 to be put into a new Town Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund was made by Ms. Castro, seconded by Mr. Davidson. All in favor, motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 14: Motion was made to approve \$275,000 be placed in the Fire Department Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund was made by Ms. Castro; seconded by Mr. Davidson; All in Favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 15: Motion was made to approve \$100,000 to be placed in the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund was made by Ms. Castro; seconded by Mr. Davidson; All in Favor; motion carries unanimously.**

**Article 17: Motion was made to authorize 50% of the Land Use Change tax up to a maximum of \$25,000 per year to be placed in the Conservation Land Acquisition Fund per RSA 36-A:5, III and RSA 70-A:25 was made by Ms. Castro and seconded by Mr. Davidson.**

Discussion about who can change the amount; it was determined that this was up to the Selectmen to do this and we can only make a recommendation to them.

**Motion was made to change the amounts to 10% and \$10,000 was made by Mr. Dailey and seconded by Mr. Davidson.** Discussion: since we don't have an accurate accounting of how much land is in conservation and how much land is under current use it is hard to get a total picture. Until that is known and also a estimate of what the right number to have in conservation is determined it would be better to start off with a lower amount. **Call the question: 5 in favor; 2 opposed: Motion carries to recommend to the Selectmen to reduce the amounts.**

Article 18 will be taken up at the Public Hearing after all of the discussion.

## 5. Other Business

Mr. Dailey questioned why the Operating Budget was put near the end of the agenda. There is concern that many of the people have already gone home and that there would be less than 1% of the town being represented. The school has their operating budget at the beginning of the night since it is usually the largest item. Chairman Hughes doesn't have any objection but would like to check with DRA first to make sure there isn't an RSA preventing us from doing that.

**TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes for January 31, 2015**

**6. Adjournment**

The next meeting will be the Public Hearing on February 3, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the Wilton Town Hall Court Room.

***A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Davidson and seconded by Ms. Castro; all in favor. The Budget Committee was adjourned at 12:08 PM.***

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Tuomala, Secretary