

**State of Maine
Androscoggin County**

**Minutes of Budget Committee
Meeting of
October 1, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Norman Beuparlant, Ralph Caldwell, Donald D'Auteuil, Don Fournier, Joseph Grube, Michael Lachance, Michael Marcotte, Anthony Reny, Andrew Titus, Emily Tuttle, Jeffrey Wakeman.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Nancy Richard, Vacant Seat District 5 Auburn, Vacant Seat District 4 Lisbon

OTHERS PRESENT: County Commissioner Randall Greenwood, County Commissioner Elaine Makas, County Commissioner Beth Bell, Register of Deeds Tina Chouinard, District Attorney Norman Croteau, Treasurer Robert Poulin, Deputy District Attorney Andrew Robinson, Register of Probate Joanna Said, Candidate for County Commissioner Alfreda Fournier, and County Clerk Patricia Fournier.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Commissioner Greenwood.

At this time, Chairman Greenwood gave an overview of the County's budget proposal to the Budget Committee.

Chairman Greenwood called for nominations for Budget Committee Chairperson for the ensuing year.

On motion of Jeffrey Wakeman, seconded by Andrew Titus, Norman Beuparlant was nominated.

On motion of Emily Tuttle, seconded by Norman Beuparlant, Michael Marcotte was nominated.

At this time, nominations were closed.

A vote was taken and it was voted:

VOTED:

(001-2014) To nominate and elect the Budget Committee Chairperson for the ensuing year.

**VOTE: Norman Beuparlant – 3
Michael Marcotte - 6**

Michael Marcotte was voted in as Chairman of the Budget Committee for the ensuing year.

Chairman Marcotte called for nominations for Vice-Chairperson at this time.

Norman Beauparlant was nominated as Vice-Chairperson.

VOTED:

(002-2014) To elect Norman Beauparlant as Budget Committee Vice-Chairperson for the ensuing year.

VOTE: 8-0-1
Norman Beauparlant abstained

On motion of Mr. Reny, seconded by Mr. Beauparlant, it was

VOTED:

(003-2014) To nominate Ralph Caldwell of Turner as Budget Committee member to replace Errol Additon for District 7.

VOTE: 9-0

On motion of Mr. Reny, seconded by Mr. Titus, it was

VOTED:

(004-2014) To nominate Michael Lachance of Lewiston as Budget Committee member to replace Richard Desjardins for District 1.

VOTE: 9-0

At this time Michael Lachance joins the Budget Committee

Emily Tuttle wanted to publicly recognize Michael Bowie for the outstanding job he did. He brought a lot of experience and institutional knowledge to this committee. Michael allowed differences of opinion to be aired so as to keep everything in order. He showed a tremendous amount of respect for whoever the budget committee members were any given year. I would like to say that I appreciated it personally when I was new to the committee, the guidance he showed and dedication to this county.

Mr. Beauparlant echoed Emily Tuttle's thoughts particularly being the new person last year. Michael was very helpful to the committee going through a new process.

On motion of Ms. Tuttle, seconded by Mr. Reny, it was

VOTED:

(005-2014) To regretfully accept the resignation of Michael Bowie.

VOTE: 10-0

At this time Ralph Caldwell arrived

On motion of Mr. Reny, seconded by Mr. Beauparlant, it was

VOTED:

(006-2014) To accept the resignation of Tizz Crowley.

VOTE: 10-0-1
Mr. Caldwell abstained

At this time, the Committee discussed the role of the Budget Committee. Emily Tuttle questioned that there still were parts of the budget, salaries and benefits of elected officials that were not just a recommendation.

Michael Marcotte stated that Emily Tuttle’s questions were exactly what he was searching for. Does the Budget Committee have full authorization to determine the salaries, wages, and benefits of the Board of Commissioners; or, is it still nothing more than a recommendation that can be changed at the whim of the Commissioners, and never to come back to this Board.

Many committee members questioned, and discussion ensued, regarding Articles 5.5.2 and 3.7 of the County Charter.

The Committee set the meeting dates for the Budget review as follows:

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| Wednesday, October 8, 2014 | 6:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday, October 15, 2014 | 6:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday, October 22, 2014 | 6:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday, October 29, 2014 | 6:00 p.m. |
| Wednesday, November 5, 2014 | 6:00 p.m. (if needed) |
| Wednesday, November 12, 2014 | 6:00 p.m. (if needed) |

Public Hearing on budget proposed:

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| Wednesday, November 19, 2014 | 6:00 p.m. |
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VOTED:

To adjourn at 7:35 p.m.

Patricia Fournier, County Clerk