

Finance Committee
November 12, 2003

Attending: Todd Abbott, John Carter, Brenda Edgerly, Denise Everest, David Fedrizzi, Mark Rogers, Paul Verrell

Also Attending: Nancy Brandt, Mark Sanders, Collin Walsh

Not Attending: None

David opened the Finance Committee meeting at 7:00 PM with comments on the Capital Plan. Since this is the first year that departments have had to submit a 5 year plan of development, it has become obvious that there needs to be some standardization of information from the departments. After the Finance Committee reviews these submissions, a list of requirements will be developed. The Committee will review the suggestions of each department and forward recommendations to the Selectmen. Discussion on the Capital Plan submissions will begin at the next meeting.

Collin Walsh, the Town Auditor, presented an overview of the GASB (Government Accounting Standards Board) #34. The purpose of this document is to make the financial statements of the local and state governments more useful and easier to understand.

There are three tiers of government. Waterboro is in level 3 which is the lowest level based on size. Waterboro will need to be in compliance with the GASB #34 requirements by June 30, 2004. Mr. Walsh reviewed the overview of the GASB #34 guidelines with the committee. The GASB statement needs to be filed on a yearly basis. Nancy has been in contact with two companies under consideration for the Capital Analysis. This could begin as early as December 1 of this year and be completed by April, 2004.

Mark Sanders, a resident of Waterboro, spoke to the committee with a warning of the hidden expenses of the baler that has been under discussion for some time. He has extensive experience working in the Public Works Department in Saco and has knowledge of a baling machine similar to the one being considered by the Transfer Station Committee. He cautioned that several additional buildings will be needed to store the recycled materials. (A place would be needed to store paper being collected and a separate place to contain the baled paper. Such a system would be needed for each of the materials to be baled-- plastics, light metals and paper/ cardboard.) He did comment on the huge amounts of recyclable products needed to make each bale and the fact that a tractor trailer needed to be full of baled material before bringing it to any recycling center. It takes a very long time to accumulate that amount of recycled product. The city of Saco had hoped to bale and sell the recycled but discovered that they did not generate sufficient material to make that a viable or commercially successful option. He doubted that if Saco could not succeed, could Waterboro?? Mr. Sanders also discussed the expense of baling wires, two people to operate the machine, the building in which to house the baler during the winter (it would not be the fire station) and the cost and efficiency of the functioning building at the Transfer station. Also discussed is the value of the baling machine itself. Saco sold their baler for only \$4500.00. Does that justify an outlay of \$30,000.00?? One suggestion was to set aside the amount of money that has been put forth for the purchase of the baler and use it to try to buy Waterboro's contract out with RWS. His discussion caused many questions to be considered regarding the purchase of this baling machine and the referenda question which will be up for a vote on December 16th of this year.

The next meeting will be on December 3rd and 16th. We plan on finalizing the revenue projections.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Carter, Secretary