

Town of Effingham
Budget Committee
September 23, 2014

Present: Paul Bartoswicz, Jim Morris, Mike Pilkovsky, Leo Racine, Dave Strauss and Mike Cauble.

1. Election of Officers	The following were nominated: Paul Bartoswicz, Chair Jim Morris, Vice-Chair Mike Cauble, Secretary	The nominees were elected.
2. Vacancy	There is a vacancy and possible persons were discussed. Dave Strauss was interested and nominated.	Dave Strauss was elected to serve until the next Town Meeting.
3. ZBA membership	Paul informed the committee that he serves on the ZBA and would not be involved when their budget is considered.	None.
4. Public Concerns	Paul has had a few people tell him that the Budget Committee rubber stamps the Selectmen's budget because at the town meeting both recommend approval. The Budget Committee meets with department heads and selectmen prior to recommending each budget to ensure that is correct. These meetings are open.	The response to these concerns should be "The meetings are open, you should attend".
5. Selectmen's briefing	Tim Eldridge reviewed possible issues that may come up. The budget may include a forestry unit type fire truck and a copier for the Municipal Building. The cemetery trustees are the selectmen and there has been some confusion in the past over gravesites. There may be stipend to have someone monitor this issue. Gwen English might be budgeted for an increase in hours. The ambulance issue is being discussed with the 6 towns and a new contract is being worked. It may be ready this year. The road budget may be moved to reconstruction and the winter road	None

6 Other	contract may be increased. The Stevens Road Bridge will be an issue and is being studied. Jim asked for an update on Camp Marist. Tim reported it is in discussion. Jim also asked if a shared phone system might be cheaper	Tim will have Claudia check on the phone system
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 8:00p.m.	
Next Meeting	The next meeting will be on October 28, 2014 at 6:45 pm.	