

**Effingham Budget Committee  
Municipal Office Building  
February 16, 2017**

**Call to Order:** 7:00 p.m.  
**Members Present:** Chairman Jim Morris, Vice-Chairman Paul Bartoswicz, Michael Pilkovsky, Mellisa Seamans  
**Members Absent:** Leo Racine, David Strauss  
**Minutes:** **MOTION – “To approve the February 9, 2017 minutes as presented”**  
 Motion passed 4-0  
**MS-737:** Committee members reviewed the MS-737 and agreed to sign, approving the following proposed 2017 budget summary:

Item	2016 Adopted Budget	Selectmen’s Recommended 2017	Budget Committee Recommended 2017
TOTAL Appropriations	\$1,970,678	\$1,901,053	\$1,894,053
Less: Estimated Revenue/Credit	\$734,750	\$577,250	\$577,250
Estimated Amount to be raised by taxes	\$1,235,928	\$1,323,803	\$1,316,803

There was much discussion about the need to strengthen the budgeting process.

- Increases to salaries and the transfer station budget; town hall fire alarm warrant article not being presented to the budget committee until the evening of the public budget hearing
- Lack of consistency in the selectmen’s office process for presenting budgets for committee consideration, i.e., there is no record of formal votes taken during public selectmen’s meeting on their recommendations for each warrant article.

The committee plans to meet in April to plan its work for the 2018 budget season and to develop its expectations to convey to the selectmen.

Procurement Ordinance Public Hearing: February 28 at 6 p.m. Effingham Municipal Office  
 Town Meeting: March 18 at 9 a.m. Effingham Elementary School

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mellisa Seamans