

THE MEETING: This was a meeting of the Selectmen with the Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) for the purpose of reviewing the FAC's recommendations for the budget for 2012-13.

The FAC went through the 22 page document almost line-by-line. The FAC said that some numbers were still estimates and needed refinements. A key figure in determining the amount to be raised by property taxes is the amount taken from the Undesignated Fund Balance. The FAC had recommended taking \$250,000 from this account. This would result in a mil rate of 7.33 which is up 3.7% from last year. If the amount taken were increased to \$300,000, the mil rate would be reduced to 7.234, and increase of 2.4% over last year.

There was considerable discussion of a request from "Fields for Our Future" for a contribution from the Town of \$5,000 to help pay for an artificial surface for the athletic fields in Bath. The Selectmen voted to show this request as a separate item on the warrant for Town Meeting.

There will be a Public Hearing on the municipal budget at 7 PM, Wednesday, May 16. There will be a Public Hearing on the school budget at 7 PM, Thursday, May 17. The budget may be revised in light of new information and public comments at the hearings. The budget will be voted on at Town Meeting, 9 AM, Saturday, June 16.

At the meeting, Mary McDonald passed out a list of the candidates for Town Offices who had turned in nominating petitions by the deadline of May 1.

Selectmen: Charles Collins, Dolores Pinette

Town Clerk and Tax Collector: Kristen Coombs, Judith Duke, Diann Longstreet

Treasurer: Mary McDonald

Road Commissioner: Dale Savoie

School Committee: Nina Roth-Wells

Town-owned Property Management Board: Mark Donovan, Bronwen Tudor

Cemetery District Trustee: Franklin Pinkham

The election will be held on Tuesday, June 12.

The next meeting of the Selectmen will be at 7 PM on Tuesday, May 8, at the Town Office.

Prepared and distributed by Rick Freeman