Present: Charlie Champagne, Chair, Steve Baldwin, Nancy Campbell and Bill Gurney
Absent: Dale Gabel, Judith Knapp and Paul Delphia
Also Present: Sherry Miller - Town Administrator and Walter Smitko - Selectman

Charlie called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Charlie welcomed Walt to the meeting and noted that he had sent an email to the Selectmen regarding cost of living adjustments for Town employees.

Bill moved and Charlie seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the November 15th Budget Committee meeting with the following amendments:
• The discussion of the renovations to the Hearse House should have included new siding and paint.
• The meeting was held on November 15 not the 16th.
• Two Town employees are being considered for raises and if granted, will not receive a COLA.

Walt discussed the Selectmen’s reasoning for proposing cost of living adjustments for Town employees:
• The federal government issued a report indicating inflation increased at 1.5% in 2015
• Health insurance rates may increases by 12.5% in 2017

Walt has been doing research on salaries for town clerks and tax collectors in towns with populations similar to Dublin. We currently rank first in towns that have combined the tax collector and clerk positions and we rank second in salaries for deputy tax collectors. Unlike most towns surveyed, Dublin makes health insurance and retirement contributions on behalf of the Town Clerk/Tax Collector.
Two Town employees are being considered for pay increases.

Charlie welcomed Lucy Shonk and May Clark. Lucy and May gave a brief presentation on the importance of the Town supporting non-profit organizations included in a proposed warrant article. They cited statistics related to the number of Dublin residents served by the various agencies.

Walt gave a brief update on the changing hours of operation for the transfer station. The Sunday hours are popular and will remain in effect until the end of the calendar year. To minimize increased salary costs, staffing on Wednesdays will be kept to a minimum.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 29 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Bill Gurney