

~ Meeting Minutes~  
**Androscoggin County Budget Committee**  
**October 2, 2024**  
**Budget Committee Meeting**  
**6:00 p.m.**

**I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** by Lisa Cesare at 6:00 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. APPOINT MEMBERS FROM VACANT DISTRICTS**

On motion of Lisa Cesare, seconded by Paula Masselli, it was

**VOTED:**

**(001-2024)** to appoint the following Budget Committee members:

District 1 Councilor Tim Gallant, Lewiston

District 2 Councilor Susan Longchamps, Lewiston

District 2 Resident - Vacant

District 3 Councilor David Chittim, Lewiston

District 4 Planning Board William Kuhl, Lisbon

District 4 Resident Deirdre Smith, Lisbon

District 5 Assistant City Manager Denis D'Auteuil, Auburn

District 6 Selectperson John DeSantis, Poland

**VOTE 10-0**

**IV. ELECT CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR**

On nomination by Lisa Cesare, seconded by Paula Masselli, it was

**VOTED:**

**(002-2024)** to nominate Lisa Cesare as the Chair.

**VOTE: 10-0**

Volunteers for Vice-Chair

1. Kevin Nichols – Selectperson for the Town of Turner on his 9<sup>th</sup> year serving on the Budget Committee.
2. Tim Gallant – New Councilor for the City of Lewiston, Ward 7. First time being on this Budget Committee but has experience in budgets, running budgets and things of that nature.

On nomination by Kevin Nichols seconded by Robert Reed, it was

**VOTED:**

**(003-2024)** to nominate Kevin Nichols as the Vice-Chair.

**VOTE: (no vote)**

On nomination by Tim Gallant, seconded by David Chittim, it was

**VOTED:**

~~(003-2024)~~ to nominate Tim Gallant as the Vice-Chair.

**VOTE:** (no vote)

Chair Cesare-“All in favor to nominate both”

**VOTED:**

~~(003-2024)~~

**VOTE: 9-0-1**

Abstained: Nichols

On nomination of Chair Lisa Cesare, seconded by Gordon Bell, it was

**VOTED:**

~~(004-2024)~~ to appoint Kevin Nichols as the Vice-Chair.

**VOTE: 9-0-1**

Abstained: Nichols

**V. ROLL CALL (with Introductions)**

Denis D’Auteuil – Assistant City Manager in Auburn.

Tim Gallant – City Councilor for Ward 7, Lewiston.

Susan Longchamps - City Councilor for Ward 2, Lewiston.

David Chittim – Newly elected Councilor for Ward 6, Lewiston (and retired engineer).

John DeSantis – Selectperson for the Town of Poland.

Paula Masselli – Ward 6 Resident of Lewiston, 3<sup>rd</sup> year on this Budget Committee,

Warden for Ward 3, Lewiston and on the Board of Appeals for Lewiston.

Chair Lisa Cesare – Selectperson for Town of Minot for ten years and member of the Budget Committee for four years.

Robert Reed – Ward 7 Resident, 3<sup>rd</sup> year on this Budget Committee, and 13 years on the Finance Committee, (and Executive Director of Maine Chiropractic Association).

Vice-Chair Kevin Nichols – Selectperson for Town of Turner on the fourth term.

Gordon Bell – Resident of Auburn, 3<sup>rd</sup> year on this Budget Committee.

**William Kuhl and Deirdre Smith arrived.**

William Kuhl – Lisbon Planning Board member, Lisbon.

Deirdre Smith – Lisbon Resident.

Other: County Administrator Jeff Chute, Treasurer Clarice Proctor, Sheriff Eric Samson, Facilities Director David Cote, Sandy Darling, Sun Journal Steve Sherlock

**VI. CONSIDERATION OF NOVEMBER 1, 2023 BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES FOR APPROVAL**

On motion of Paula Masselli, seconded by Gordon Bell, it was

**VOTED:**

**(005-2024)** to approve the November 1, 2023 Budget Committee minutes as presented.

**VOTE: 11-0-1**

Abstained: Reed

*At this time, the Budget Committee skipped to VIII. Review and Adopt Budget Schedule.*

**VII. 2024 PRELIMINARY BUDGET PRESENTED TO COMMITTEE**

County Administrator Jeffrey Chute introduced himself as the new Administrator, (who previously served as Jail Administrator for many years). He asked the Budget Committee to read the letter in their budget books describing the current state of the budget, which is now at 11.66% after starting at 16.5% prior to the Commissioners cuts. He pointed out that the County increases on the County side were a little over a percent of an increase and it is the jail that is the battle due to a lack of state funding. In closing, he urged the Budget Committee to reach out to him at any time.

Finance Director Clarice Proctor introduced herself.

**VIII. REVIEW AND ADOPT BUDGET SCHEDULE**

On motion of Lisa Cesare, seconded by Paula Masselli, it was

**VOTED:**

**(006-2024)** to approve the Budget Schedule as presented.

**VOTE: 12-0**

*At this time, the Budget Committee returned to VII. 2024 Preliminary Budget Presented to Committee (see above).*

**IX. ADJOURN**

On motion of Kevin Nichols, seconded by Tim Gallant, it was

**VOTED:**

**(007-2024)** to adjourn at 6:18 p.m.

**VOTE: 12-0**

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Sandra Darling