

Appleton Budget Committee
Meeting of February 23, 2023 — minutes

The first meeting of the Appleton Budget Committee (ABC) for consideration of the 2023-'24 budgets convened at 6:35 p.m. on Thursday, February 23 via the Zoom online meeting platform.

In attendance for the ABC: Bob Bocko, Mary Kate Moody, Ed Carroll; Select Board: Lori Costigan; public and others: none.

Noted: With the change in the number of committee members to five, three members present constituted a quorum.

Reviewed: Appleton's Budget Committee Ordinance, assigned powers and duties of ABC; responsibilities of ABC chair and secretary.

Selection of officers: Moody nominated Bocko to serve as chair, Carroll seconded; Bocko elected chair on 2-0 vote, with Bocko abstaining. Discussion of Moody's long service as secretary, scheduling conflicts this year; Carroll agreed to serve as interim secretary until members not in attendance can consider fulfilling secretary's duties; Bocko nominated Carroll, Moody seconded, approved on 3-0 vote.

Reviewed: Procedures for ABC meetings. Members agreed to maintain meeting format of: first, ABC review and discussion of proposed budgets by cost areas; second, ABC members in Q&A discussion of proposed budgets with representatives of Appleton Select Board and Appleton Village School Board, as applicable.

Reviewed and discussed: ABC members went through the town budget by cost area, noting areas of concern, spending changes and developing questions for the select board and road commissioner.

Reviewed and discussed: ABC members went through the town budget by cost area and line-by-line with Select Board Chair Lori Costigan.

Actions taken: ABC members agreed unanimously to take no formal votes on budget recommendations until a subsequent meeting can be held to consider updated information for review and discussion with full board present.

Meetings scheduled: Next meeting of the ABC is Wednesday, March 8, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom to review the AVS budget, ask questions, and consider recommendation votes. The ABC will meet again on Thursday, March 9, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom to review an updated town budget and make recommendation votes. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m. by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Ed Carroll, *interim* Appleton Budget Committee secretary