

Amherst Ways & Means Meeting

October 12, 2021

Final

Attendees:

Mike Parisi, Chair (MP)

Lisa Eastland (LE)

Jim Kuhnert (JK)

Bill Loscocco (BL)

Lori Mix (LM)

Michael Patterson (MP2)

Wendy Rannenberg (WR)

Diane Layton, Alternate (DL)

Melanie Gaiser, Alternate (MG) was not in attendance.

Ways & Means Meeting Call to Order at 8:52pm

1. **Citizens comments:** None

2. **Discuss Strategic Plan Presentations:**

- a. All FY23 strategic plan presentations have been completed. This year included:
 - Tax and Assessing
 - Police and Communications
 - Community Development
 - Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee
 - Amherst Parks & Recreation
 - Library
 - Fire Rescue
 - Conservation Commission
 - Department of Public Works
 - Administration & Finance
- b. JK discussed the inconsistencies in presentations from all departments – from the questions that need to be asked and answered, the data collection to support, look and feel, and formatting. He asked if the Ways and Means should consider making recommendations to the town about how to develop and present these plans going forward. All agreed.
- c. JK also asked if there was a better understanding of the interplay between department activities and accounting for expenditures correctly. LE & MP discussed the difficulty in properly understanding this in the past and changes that have been made over the years to make it more transparent. More work is needed.

3. **Department Budget Meeting Assignments:**

- a. Next step is scheduling and attending the budget meetings of each department. Dean Shankle, Town Administrator, expects to have that schedule completed by tomorrow, October 13th and will forward to us.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm

Respectively submitted,
Lori Mix