

Town of Weld Budget Committee Meeting

Minutes

Location: Weld Town Office, 23 Mill Street, Weld, Maine (Multi-Purpose Room)

Date and Time: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 @5:30PM

Call Meeting to Order: Meeting called to order by Dina Walker, Selectperson, Chair, at 5:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Budget members present at the meeting (all members present and quorum was established):

Laurie Pratt

Barbi Castonguay

Becky Vining

Rebecca Scott

Russell Banton

Executive Sessions – None

Recognitions – None

Appointments:

- Chairman: The committee decided to table the election of Chairman till a future meeting. The committee accepted Dina Walker to chair this committee meeting with no voting authority.
- Secretary: Russell Banton made the motion that Laurie Pratt be the secretary of the Committee and it was seconded by Barbi Castonguay. There was a vote and the vote was unanimous in favor of Laurie becoming Secretary for the Committee.

New Business

1. The Budget Committee discussed the parameters and work scope for the 2026 Town of Weld Budget Proposal (“2026 Budget”) and focused on the following points:
 - Purpose: The Budget Committee of the Town of Weld is an elected body of individuals tasked with the responsibility of submitting a 2026 Budget to the Select Board for review and approval, which then will be submitted jointly to the Town Legislature for vote/approval at Annual Town Meeting.
 - The discussion of the 2026 Budget by the Budget Committee are to be held as public proceedings; other than the members of the committee, any individual from the public recognized to speak by the committee does not have authority to vote at these proceedings on the 2026 Budget.

2. The Budget Committee discussed the information that the Budget Committee requests of the Treasurer for review and discussion of the 2026 Budget. The information/documents are as follows:
 - Town expenses from 2023, 2024, 2025 (projected full year), and 2025 (including 2.8% CPI/COLA)
 - Relevant Department/Committee/Officials 2026 Initial Budget Request Sheet for discussion including comments/descriptions of exact expenses requested for the line-budget item
 - Anticipated Revenue for 2026
 - 2025 Detailed Expenses Sheet by Budget Line Item
 - Budget Committee Worksheets (Blank except for 2026 Initial Budget Requests) -- your worksheet to work with throughout the meetings. This may or may not be in Excel depending on our computer system capabilities at the moment.
3. Established a calendar of meetings to discuss the 2026 Budget for the Select Board's review.

The Budget Committee decided the following schedule of meetings to discuss the 2026 Budget. The meetings will be held at the Town of Weld multi-purpose room from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on the following dates with focus on the relevant Departments/committees/projects requests:

November 13, 2025 - Public Safety/ACO

November 20, 2025 – Public Works/CEO

December 4, 2025 – Transfer Station/Weld Observer/Weld Rec/Rec Space

December 11, 2025 – General Government/Dept Secretary Proposal

December 18, 2025 – Miscellaneous (if needed)

Unfinished Business – None

Miscellaneous Matters – None

Public Comment – None

Adjournment: There was a Motion to adjourn made by Barbi Castonguay, and it was seconded by Becky Vining. The vote was unanimous to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

November 6, 2025

Respectfully submitted,

Laureen Pratt, Secretary
Weld Budget Committee