

## **DRAFT**

### **Town of Weare Finance Committee**

#### **Minutes of the Meeting of January 9, 2013**

This meeting of the Finance Committee was held in the Conservation Committee Room of the Town Office and was called to order by the chairman at 7:10 p.m.

Present were Kate Cloud (chairman), Jill Dagenais, Gregg Elwood, Neal Kurk, Paul Marsh, Ike Shepard, Jeff Spring and Matt Whitlock. \

1. **Town budget:** the Committee examined the most recent budget proposals by the selectmen. There was considerable discussion of the wage increases for the fire department and the overtime line in the police department and appreciation for the thoughtful decisions of the selectmen.

2. **Weare Schools budget:** the Committee looked at the \$550,000 in mandatory budget increases, the \$221,000 in desired budget increases (including a second physical education teacher) and the \$109,000 loss of state education aid due to declining enrolments. It appeared that the school board did not deal with this continuing issue either in its budget or in a long-range plan. Class size data by grade might help in developing alternatives.

3. **John Stark:** the Committee noted that, in the face of declining enrolments and a loss of significant amount of state education aid (about \$474,000), the Stark board asked the superintendent to propose budget reductions in an offsetting amount. At its meeting and at the public hearing tomorrow, the board will make decisions about the proposed reductions.

5. **Adjournment:** the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. on Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

Neal M. Kurk, Secretary