

**ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING  
MAY 10, 2011  
TOWN OF COLUMBIA**

The Annual Budget Meeting of the electors and citizens qualified to vote in Town Meeting of the Town of Columbia, Connecticut, was held in the Horace W. Porter Cafetorium on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at 7:30 pm.

Present were Carmen Vance, First Selectman, Rebecca Stearns, Richard J. Szegda, William O'Brien, Rob Hellstrom, Selectmen, Jonathan Luiz, Town Administrator, Paula Belekewicz, Lisa Jurovaty, Nelson Petrone, William Mulcahy, Board of Education, and Francine Coss, Superintendent.

Presenting the budget for Financial Planning & Allocation Commission was Ernest Sharpe, Chairman, Cindy Harrison, Pam Missal, Judith Ortiz, Scott Petrequin, and Allen Smith.

<b>CITIZENS:</b>	50 Present
<b>CLERK:</b>	Robin M. Kenefick
<b>MODERATOR:</b>	Robert Baldwin

The meeting was called to order by First Selectman, Carmen Vance, at 7:35 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The meeting was turned over to the Moderator who explained the process and procedure to run the annual Budget meeting and that the vote is by secret ballot. The Moderator then read the legal.

**CLAUSE 1:** Motion was made by Carmen Vance, First Selectman.

**I MOVE** that the Town approve the budget for the Fiscal Year 2011 – 2012 as proposed by FIPAC.

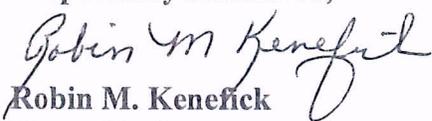
Motion was second. The floor was opened for discussion. Carmen Vance spoke first. She hoped everyone here attended the April 13 budget hearing, where a very detailed presentation was made by Francine Coss, Superintendent and Jonathan Luiz, Town Administrator. The Board of Selectmen, Board of Education, and Financial Planning & Allocation Commission worked extremely hard to analyze the budget keeping increases to a minimum resulting in NO increases in taxes. Carmen Vance supports the budget. Discussion continued with a few citizens stating that times are tough and a 0% increase to the budget is still difficult when people are out of work but they were in favor of supporting this budget. Discussion ended and went to a vote.

The Moderator read the original motion to vote on the budget by paper ballot.

Vote YES 60 NO 6 Motion passes.  
( Vote consisted of citizens and qualified board members )

The Moderator adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Robin M. Kenefick  
Town Clerk