

**ADVISORY BUDGET COMMITTEE
TOWN OF MADISON
June 16, 2026
MINUTES**

Members Present- Sharon Schilling; Charlie Allen, Nan Bartlett; Noreen Downs (Alternate); Selectmen's Rep Joe Dame.

No School Board member was present yet. Jim Curran is enroute from another meeting.

Others Present- MadTV Videographer Theo Gray

Where and When Posted- Town Hall upper and lower bulletin boards and Madison & Silver Lake Post Offices.

Meeting Called to Order – By Schilling at 6:01PM

Welcome and Introductions were made by Schilling

Pledge of Allegiance – Dame led those in attendance in reciting the Pledge.

Approval of April 21, 2026 Minutes:

Motion by Bartlett, seconded by Allen to approve the April 21, 2026 minutes. The motion passed 4-0.

Schilling elevated Downs from Alternate.

Public Comments: None from the public.

Selectman's Update: Selectman Dame provided: there are no detailed financials yet, there have been issues with QuikBooks. From an overarching standpoint we have \$846K in the General Fund, \$599K in the Money Market account and total cash of \$1,445,980.54. Unassigned funds are approximately \$1.3M. Selectman Dame is doing the deposits with the departure of the Town Treasurer. He indicated we are in good shape with regard to expenditures. None of the billing for the road repairs is in the system yet.

6:12PM – Deb Parsons joined the meeting as the School Board Rep.

Dame explained the process for the FEMA Disaster declaration.

Madison has hired a new Town Treasurer, Christine Richardson. She was previously a CFO and understands how to use QuikBooks.

School Board Update: Discussed a Joint meeting with School Board and ABC to start budget discussions: July 6th at 5:30PM in the School Library, Charlie Allen unable to attend. The SAU

has hired a new Superintendent: Kathleen Scholand. They are looking to hire a new Special Education Director and two Special Education Teachers to replace departing staff.

Discussions have started again regarding the new tuition agreement for replacing the expiring one.

Last day of school is June 18th – it's a half day.

School CIP- the company that remodeled the upstairs bathrooms will be doing the downstairs bathrooms.

School board discussed building a garage to consolidate the several sheds.

Playground discussion regarding the second phase and seeking grant money to do it. Would add pieces to the existing playground to provide for adaptive play.

Enrollment: 28 6th graders leaving, 13 enrolling puts the numbers for next year at the Mid 80's.

The ABC had an overarching discussion regarding FY7/28 budget objectives. Discussed Zero Base budgeting and know it would require some training, however the overall guidance remains to reduce the budget and align all the health benefits. Specifics that should be looked at include; Personnel- Minimum vs Optimal (data driven based on Class size and Student Ratio) Health Insurance and Cost Sharing and Resource sharing across the SAU.

CIP Update: Schilling provided an update indicating that the Historical Society is in need of a Fire Detection and Monitoring system. They do not have one, only burglar. Would like it to tie into Fire Department, but Chief said that system is over 40 years old and needs updating.

Administration: Schilling noted that the ABC section of the Town website needs updating. It is last year's info and does not have our meeting minutes. Came to pursue with Town.

.

There being no further business, Bartlett made a motion and Allen seconded the motion to adjourn at 7:32PM. Unanimous, 5-0 to adjourn. Next meeting is July 14th at 6PM in the lower level of Town Hall.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sharon Schilling
Chair, Advisory Budget Committee