

ASHLAND BUDGET COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 9, 2016

Members Present: Ruell, Lyford, Coleman, Cilley, Badger, Downing

Member Excused: Hoerter

Others Present: Alan Cilley, Jeanette Stewart, Charles Smith, Tejasinha Sivalingam

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. in the Ashland School library.

Vacancy. Jeanette Stewart had volunteered to serve on the Budget Committee. After some discussion, it was voted 6 to 0, on a motion by Coleman, seconded by Badger, to appoint Jeanette Stewart to serve on the Budget Committee until the March 2017 town election.

Meetings and Hearings. School officials would like to meet with the Budget Committee on December 20 and 21 for their 2017-2018 school budget, Those dates were agreeable to the Committee. School officials preferred to hold the school budget hearing on January 12. Town officials were informed of this preference and had no objection to holding the town budget hearing on January 11. On a motion by Cilley, seconded by Badger, it was voted 7 to 0, to hold the public hearing on the Town budget on Wednesday, January 11, the public hearing on the School budget on Thursday, January 12 and the snow date for those hearings on Friday, January 13, all at 6 p.m. in the School Cafeteria.

Town Budget. The Committee began its review and votes on the 2017 Town budget. The motions and votes were as follows:

Executive. On a motion by Stewart, seconded by Cilley, it was voted 6-0-1 to recommend \$1600 for PBCAM Expense. A motion was made by Downing, seconded by Coleman, to recommend \$200 for Town Admin Expenses, and then withdrawn. A motion was made by Lamos, seconded by Cilley, to recommend \$500 each for Town Administrator Expenses and General

Expense and then withdrawn. On a motion by Lamos, seconded by Stewart, it was voted 6 to 1 to recommend \$500 for Town Administrator Expenses. On a motion by Lamos, seconded by Stewart, it was voted 6 to 1 to recommend \$500 for General Expenses. On a motion by Badger, seconded by Cilley, it was voted 6 to 1 to recommend the rest of the Executive lines as presented by the Selectmen, excepting the lines already voted upon.

Election & Registration. On a motion by Coleman, seconded by Lamos, it was voted 5-1-1 to recommend \$2600 for Clerk Expense. On a motion by Cilley, seconded by Stewart, it was voted 6 to 1 to recommend \$37,695 for the entire Election & Registration account.

Financial. After some discussion, it was voted 4 to 3 on a motion by Badger, seconded by Ruell, to recommend \$113,795 for the entire Financial account.

Property Taxation. On a motion by Coleman, seconded by Stewart, it was voted to 6 to 1 to recommend \$1 for Tax Assessment Appeals. On a motion by Cilley, seconded by Badger, it was voted to 6 to 1 to recommend the rest of Property Taxation as presented by the Selectmen.

Legal Expenses. A motion by Coleman, seconded by Downing, to recommend \$15,000 for Legal expenses, failed on a vote of 3 to 4. On a motion by Badger, seconded by Lamos, it was voted 4 to 3 to recommend \$20,000 for Legal Expenses.

On a motion by Downing, seconded by Coleman, it was voted to adjourn at 8:10 p.m.

David Ruell, Chairman