

**ASHLAND BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**September 25, 2017**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Budget Committee Chairman Jeanette Stewart. Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call vote: Present: Sherrie Downing, David Ruell, Eli Badger, Bobbi Hoerter, Harold Lamos and Charlie Smith, Town Administrator. Sandra Coleman, excused absence.

Moved by Hoerter, seconded by Downing to approve minutes of September 8, 2017, with corrections. Passes 5 yeas, 1 abstension.

General discussion by Budget Committee of various department budgets. Downing asked all department heads revisit their budgets to determine if they can make a few additional cuts to their budgets. Badger said various departments put in amounts in their budgets to allow for unexpected contingencies which may or may not happen.

It was noted that approximately 98% of the increases in the Police Department are due to union increases.

Budget Committee discussed the Park & Rec budget. It was pointed out that Ms. Barney's information sheet on her salary increase apparently does not include overtime. Lamos will check if she is paid straight time or earns overtime for all her overtime hours. Lamos will also check on what "added programs" actually have been instituted to account for the various increases.

Budget Committee continued discussion of Election & Registration, Executive and Financial budgets. Lamos indicated the Financial Officer line may go down a bit, as they have offered a contract to a new employee. Charlie Smith told us there is \$3,000-\$4,000 in a Capital Reserve Disability Insurance Line. The BOS would need to seek the approval of the voters to use that money for other purposes.

Lamos discussed how Craig Moore, Acting Public Works Director, is very forward thinking in his thoughts on running the department.

Discussion about the Legal Line in the Executive budget. No votes on any budget was taken.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbi Hoerter, Budget Committee Member