

Ashland Budget Committee Meeting Dec. 10, 2019

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 6pm with a roll call vote. Eli B here, David R here, Lee N here, Sue H here, Jeanette S here. Sandra C absent with notice. Sherrie D. late. Town Manager Charlie S was also present.

Will from the police department presented the board his budget. They are going to hire another full time police person. There are 5 regular officers and 2 part time officers. The budget for part time officers is a minus as they had to have them work extra hours. The police budget did not increase that much except to hire a full time police officer.

The CBA has not completed there negotiations. Lee asked if the police had A and D testing. They do have a background check and periodic testing.

Chairman Stewart thought that they should put money back into the Heritage Commission budget. The committee voted to put \$1000 into the Heritage Commission budget. Vote was unanimous to put \$1,000 dollars into their budget. The committee also voted to make the cemetery budget \$1000. There were 5 affirmative and 1 nay. (Eli B.) Motion carried.

The committee talked about the \$600,000 for a warrant article for a new library. Sherrie D felt we didn't need this and the feuding should stop. Jeanette S. agreed.

The committee discussed the \$5,000 dollar raise the finance person was given and the \$3,000 the electric department clerk was given.

The committee asked the town manager to present them with a revenue report asap.

Motion was made by David R to accept the library budget of \$72,726. Seconded by JS. 5 affirmatives and 1 nay (Sherrie D). Motion carried, the library budget was passed.

The school public hearing will be January 6th and the town public hearing will be January 17th with a snow date of January 21st. December 23rd the committee will meet with the school to go over their budget.

February 1st is the date set for the SB 2 meeting.

The committee discussed about the next meeting. It was decided that it would be Dec. 17, 2019 at 6pm at the fire station.

Chairman Stewart adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Jeanette Stewart
Chairman