

Ashland Budget Committee Meeting Minutes October 15, 2020.

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 5 pm in the Water and Sewer conference room with a roll call vote. Sandra C, here, Lee Nichols, here, David Ruell, here, Sherrie Downing, here, and Jeanette Stewart, here, present on zoom was Eli Badger. Also present was Charlie Smith, Town Manager. Present in the audience was Charlie Bozzello.

The committee talked about receiving the budget and the revenues by the 7th of each month.

Lee Nichols made the motion that the budget committee received all expenses and revenues by the 7th of each month in November thru January of every budget year. Motion by LN seconded by SD. It was discussed and voted on. SC, nay, DR, nay, EB, nay, and JS nay. Motion was denied. SD made a new motion and changed it to November 2020. seconded by LN. SC, nay, DR, nay, EB, nay and JS, nay. Motion was denied.

Sandra Coleman made the motion that all expenses and revenues be received by the budget committee by the 10th of each month starting in November 2020. Seconded by Jeanette Stewart. SC, aye, DR, aye, EB, aye, JS, aye. LN, nay. SD, abstained. Motion carried.

The town manager talked about the covid 19 revenue and the go for grant of \$49,501.00. Police department has a phone outside now for people to use.

Sandra C questioned the depreciation amount for the electric department. The town manager will look into this.

Charlie is working on making a budget book explaining overview, community profile, department expenses, revenue, definitions and glossary etc. This will make it much easier for everyone to understand.

The chairman asked how much the unanticipated funds balance is and the town manager said it was \$1,007,307.00. Sandra C stated the selectmen should use some of this to lower the taxes. The chairman agreed.

David Ruell suggested we have another table so that we can do 6 feet social distancing. The town manager will make sure we have 2 in the room for the next meeting.

Everyone agreed to have the next meeting on October 27th at 5 pm in the water and sewer conference room and it will also be zoom available. The chairman will schedule interviews that night with the persons interested in becoming a budget committee member. They will be 15 minute interviews.

The chairman adjourned the meeting at 6:37 pm.