

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2015
ASHLAND TOWN OFFICE
7:30 AM**

MINUTES

Chairman DeWolfe called the meeting to order at 7:41 AM with a roll call. Fran Newton, Steve Felton, Norm DeWolfe, Leigh sharps and Phil Preston present.

Others Present: TA Heather Thibodeau, Brenda Paquette, Patsy Tucker

TAX RATE.

The Board met to discuss setting the Town Tax Rate. The Total Tax rate would be \$25.43 if the selectmen do not use any of the unassigned fund balance. The Town portion would be \$9.10 if not used. After considerable discussion regarding reducing the fund balance, a motion was made by Fran N and seconded by Leigh S to reduce the fund balance by \$110,000 to reduce the town portion of the tax rate to \$8.64 and the total tax rate to \$24.97 a \$1.00 increase over last year. Vote was 5-0 in favor. Moved unanimously.

Other Business

The Board agree to invite Tony Gunta to a future BOS meeting.

The Board agreed to recommend the TA revised amounts for Mechanic general expenses and equipment for the proposed budget. The Board still has a few lines to finalize.

The Board met with Bob Flanders, Building inspector to discuss his return to work post back surgery. Bob provided note from his Doctor allowing to return to full duty work on October 26. The Board agreed to allow him to return to work effective October 26 s per the Doctor's note.

Norm brought up some interpersonal concerns to Bob regarding his interactions with individuals and the TA. After considerable discussion, Bob was asked to be more aware of his interactions as they relate to the perception by some individuals that he was arrogant, condescending and somewhat abrasive. The Board recognized his knowledge and experience.

Board agreed to meet next at 7:30 AM on Oct. 26 to set the Town Tax Rate.

Seeing that there was no other business. Fran N. motioned to adjourn at 9:15 AM. Seconded by Leigh S. Moved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Norm DeWolfe
10-27-15

BOS Minutes 10-26-2015