

ASHLAND BUDGET COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 20, 2011

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: S. Felton, D. Ruell, C. Austin, D. Golden, I. Heidenreich, K. Stack, M. Brown, M. Scarano, S. Coleman, F. Newton

OTHERS PRESENT: P. Branscombe, P. Tucker, A. Cilley, E. Badger, M. Badger, J. Felton, D. Toth, C. Thompson.

The meeting came to order at 6:00pm in the elementary school library.

We started with the water and sewer budget.

Water:

S. Felton to put in letter form to suggest to put monies into a yearly capital reserve fund, instead of depreciation line.

Newton made the motion, 2nd by Felton to decrease depreciation from \$80,000. to \$0.00. All member ayed.

Misc. expense figure includes meter reading and the secretary salary.

There is no monies set aside in the budget for the proposed billing system that is being talked about to get up and going in 2012.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept the figure of \$153,482. for the water proposed budget (taking out the depreciation). All members ayed.

Felton made the motion, 2nd by Heidenreich to accept the water default budget figure of \$225,666. as stated (which includes contract operation to be \$83,093., health insurance to be \$4,500., and well testing to be \$12,000.). All members ayed.

Sewer:

Felton made the motion, 2nd by Newton to decrease depreciation from \$80,000. to \$0.00. All members ayed.

The \$300,000. is not in a capital reserve fund, but the commissioners can get to the monies at anytime.

Newton made the motion, 2nd by Heidenreich to accept the figure of \$268,708. for the sewer proposed budget (taking out the depreciation). 8 members ayed. 1 member nayed.

There will be a 3% increase for Utility Partners, which is contracted.

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Felton made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept the sewer default budget figure of \$352,282. as stated (which includes retirement expense to be \$1,500., health insurance to be \$4,000., contract operations to be \$213,671., and mains and manhole repair to be \$2,000.). All members ayed.

We finished water & sewer at 6:45pm.

S. Coleman passed out a cost analysis handout for the electric dept. for the proposed billing system.

Newton made the motion, 2nd by Felton to decrease the computer expense in the electric budget from \$45,000. to \$2,500. 8 members ayed. 1 member abstained.

S. Coleman to find out if L. Nichols has plans to retire any time soon. And she is to find out if L. Nichols and L. Pack are getting raises in 2012.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Felton to decrease postage in the electric budget from \$16,000. to \$12,000. 8 members ayed. 1 member abstained.

Electric income: Are there any raises in the budget? What is the unfunded retirement figure, vacation, sick time etc.

Felton made the motion, 2nd by Newton to approve the proposed electric budget as presented (except for the 3 above changes). 8 members ayed. 1 member abstained.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Felton to reconsider the previous motion due to salaries. 8 members ayed. 1 member abstained.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Felton to table remainder of electric budget except the three changes (depreciation, computer expense, and postage), pending further information. 8 members ayed. 1 member abstained.

We finished going over electric at 7:50pm.

At 7:55pm we went back to the town budget.

Scarano made the motion, 2nd by Brown to have the donation default figure be \$18,989. (Tri-Cap, Pemi Home Health, Grafton Co. Senior Citizens, Voices against Violence). All members ayed.

Campground:

Coleman made the motion, 2nd by Heidenreich to decrease campground improvements from \$4,000. to \$2,500. 5 members ayed. 4 members nayed.

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Felton made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept the rest of proposed campground budget as presented. All members ayed.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept the default budget figure for campground be \$12,531. All members ayed.

Summer/Vacation program:

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Brown to decrease the camp arts and crafts from \$500. to \$250. 2 members ayed. 7 members nayed.

Felton made the motion, 2nd by Scarano to decrease the Beach Maintenance line from \$5,500. to \$1,000. (\$4,500. to be encumbered for the fence). All members ayed.

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Scarano to accept the proposed budget for summer/vacation program as presented by BOS. 8 members ayed. 1 member nayed.

Scarano made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept the default figure for summer/vacation program of \$59,473. All members ayed.

After School Program:

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Newton to accept the budget figure of \$6,026. as proposed by BOS. All members ayed.

Newton made the motion, 2nd by Coleman to accept the default figure of \$6,126. All members ayed.

Community:

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Scarano to accept the budget figure of \$1,893. as proposed by BOS. All members ayed.

Felton made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept the default figure of \$5,601. All members ayed.

At 8:40pm we discussed library budget.

The committee will ask the library to present the budget next year in the same format as the other departments.

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Scarano to accept the library proposed budget of \$58,710 (which reflects 30 cent raise per employee). All members ayed.

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The next meeting for the budget committee to meet will be Thursday December 22, 2011 at 6:00pm. We will start with the school budget.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Scarano to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm. All members aye.

Christine Austin, Secretary