ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 30TH, 2017
ASHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
5:30 PM

Chairman Fran Newton called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM with a roll call vote. Vice Chairman Harold Lamos, Selectmen Tejasinha Sivalingam, Casey Barney, and Leigh Sharps were all present. Others present: Town Administrator Charles Smith and Ashland Fire Chief Heath.

Purpose for this meeting was to discuss the acceptance of a $6,000 Homeland Security Grant awarded to the Town of Ashland. Chief Heath informed the board that the grant must be expended exclusively on equipment. Chief Heath provided further details about the equipment purchase and grant;

- Fire Department intends to purchase ballistic bullet proof vests (level 4) which have ceramic hard plates and protect against pistols/high power riffles.
- Firefighters will be trained on the use of the equipment.
- Grant was awarded at no cost to the town and is for a full reimbursement up to $6,000.
- Grant must be expended by 2019. [Chief doesn't expect the expenditure to take that long].

MOTION: Selectman Sharps
To accept the 2017 Homeland Security Grant in the amount of $6,000.
SECOND: Selectman Barney
DISCUSSION: Selectman Sivalingam suggested the acceptance of the grant be a 2018 warrant article.
MOTION PASSED 4-1 (Yes: Newton, Barney, Sharps, Lamos; **No:** Sivalingam**)**

Further discussion continued with the Board of Selectmen about, which line item to use for expending the grant and how the expenditure is offset by revenue.

MOTION: Selectman Sharps
To create a new line item in the Fire Department budget for grant contracts.
SECOND: Vice Chairman Lamos
DISCUSSION: Consensus of the board agreed a new line item would be beneficial for future grants that the fire department might apply for. Selectman Sivalingam expressed reservations about grant contracts not being reduced in the default budget following the expenditure. Chairman Newton said all contracts are removed or approved from default each year, and Selectmen have final review.

MOTION PASSED 4-1 (Yes: Newton, Barney, Sharps, Lamos; **No:** Sivalingam**)**

The Board of Selectmen adjourned their meeting at 5:58 PM.

Submitted on October 31st, 2017 by Charles Smith