

**ASHLAND BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**AUGUST 30, 2017**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Budget Committee Chairwoman Jeanette Stewart. Roll call vote:  
Present: David Ruell, Eli Badger, Bobbi Hoerter, and Charlie Smith, Ashland Town Administrator.

Stewart started the meeting by clarifying the issue of some upcoming Friday meetings. The Budget Committee has no hidden motives. After passing August and September calendars, a few Fridays were the only dates available to a majority of the Budget Committee.

Motion made by Ruell, seconded by Hoerter to approve the August 24, 2017, Budget Committee minutes. Motion unanimously passes with 5 yeas.

Sherrie Downing present at 6:07 p.m.. Sherrie Downing will take the minutes of the 9/8/17 Budget Committee meeting.

6:07 p.m. Chief Steve Heath, Ashland Fire Department, presented his upcoming 2018 budget. Chief Heath expressed they are replacing the communication equipment, such as portable radios, gradually. The Fire Department is also trying to remain on top of maintenance of equipment and the building, rather than waiting for a critical emergency. Chief Heath is pursuing grant money as often as possible. Sandra Coleman present at 6:21 p.m.

Chief Heath informed us they will receive \$10,000 for our old fire truck. Chief Heath informed us that the State of New Hampshire mandates that anyone taking a class needs to receive a letter from their doctor for approval of attending, should the class be physically strenuous.

6:51 p.m. Chief Tony Randall, Ashland Police Department, presented his upcoming 2018 budget. Chief Randall explained he is attempting to keep his officers at the same pace salary-wise. Coleman inquired on Chief Randall's contract. Chief Randall informed us his contract started March 3, 2017. January 1, 2018 the Police Department raises go into effect. A discussion was had regarding overtime in the police department. Chief Randall also delayed replacing one of the computers and eliminated another computer to cut those budget lines.

7:40 p.m. Ann Barney, Park & Recreation Department Director, presented her 2018 budget. She began by stating that she is still a part time employee, received an increase of 18% after 2 years with no increases (\$1/hour increase). Ms. Barney extensively went over various budget lines in her department.

Discussion was had regarding the Park & Rec Department bringing in \$97,000 annually, but the money does not return to her budget lines for spending. 8:00 p.m. Hoerter left meeting.

Ms. Barney continued her Park & Rec presentation.

8:25 p.m. meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbi Hoerter, Budget Committee Member  
& Jeanette Stewart, Chairman, Budget Committee