

**ASHLAND BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**JULY 31, 2017**

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Budget Committee Chairwoman Jeanette Stewart. Roll call vote: Present: David Ruell, Eli Badger, Bobbi Hoerter, Tejasinha Savalingam. Excused absence Sherrie Downing. Sandra Coleman arrived at 6:35 p.m.

Stewart started the meeting by stating the purpose of the meeting: for the budget committee members to discuss the issue of the Board of Selectmen using the Road Improvements Capital Reserve to repair and reconstruct the drainage on Smith Hill Road, since the warrant article was defeated. A lengthy discussion was had regarding the "no means no" law in New Hampshire. Town Administrator Smith read a portion from a memorandum from DRA stating DRA feels the Budget Committee has specific authorization to review expenditures for the town.

Fran Newton, Leigh Sharps, Casey Barney, and Harold Lamos, Ashland's BOS, then joined the Budget Meeting officially at 7:00 p.m.

After more discussion on culvert issues, long term drainage issues re: Smith Hill Road and Thompson Street, the Budget Committee reached a consensus that we do not approve spending capital reserve monies on this project because the voters did defeat the warrant article regarding Thompson Street and Smith Hill.

Discussion was also had regarding breaking up the various portions of the Smith Hill/Thompson Street repair project for next year, with lower individual costs in an effort to have some of the work approved by the voters.

It was agreed between the BOS and the Budget Committee to attempt to meet jointly again during the budget process to keep items on track.

The BOS left the Budget Meeting and continued their meeting in another room.

The Budget Committee all filled out the months of August and September for dates each of us are NOT available for meetings.

Budget Committee agreed we want the paperwork from the various department heads five days prior to our scheduled meeting. If we are given no paperwork, the Budget Committee will reschedule that department's Budget Committee meeting. The Budget Committee also decided we want paper copies of the various reports placed in our boxes at the Town Hall.

Motion made by Hoerter and seconded by Badger to appoint Jamie Lyford as an appointed member of the Budget Committee. (3 yeas, 2 abstentions). A brief discussion was held regarding conflicts of interest pertaining to Mr. Lyford's appointment.

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbi Hoerter, Budget Committee Member