

**ASHLAND BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**Minutes November 13, 2017**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Budget Committee Chairman Jeanette Stewart. Roll call: Present: Sherrie Downing, Bobbi Hoerter, Harold Lamos, David Ruell and Eli Badger. Sandra Coleman, excused absence. Charlie Smith, Ashland Town Administrator present in audience. Department Heads Chief Heath, Chief Randall, Ann Barney present. Pledge of Allegiance. Three high school girls attended for school credit.

Ms. Stewart opened meeting with Chief Heath addressing the Fire Department budget. Line 392 Mutual Aid figure is \$21,898. General cash flow discussion. Ruell moved, Downing seconded Motion to approve \$246,713 for Fire Department. 6 yes, motion carries. Ruell moved, Badger seconds \$49,486 for Ambulance. 6 yes, motion carries. Hoerter moved, Lamos seconds Line 610: \$3,000 Emergency Management. 6 yes, motion carries.

Chief Randall addressed Police Department budget. 97% of the increases were due to police union wages. Downing noted the police grant line has gone unused for a few years. Chief Randall explained how a department doesn't know in advance of upcoming grant possibilities. Ruell moved, Lamos seconds \$621,686 bottom line for Police Department. 6 yes, motion carries.

Chief Randall explained purpose of Police Detail; Police Detail is usually a wash, as it is usually billed out, then revenue is received back. Downing moved, Hoerter seconds \$3,230 for Police Detail. 6 yes, motion carries.

Ann Barney, Park & Rec Director, answered a few questions on Park & Rec. Ruell moved, Lamos seconds \$49,955 for Park & Rec. 4 yes, 2 nos, motion carries. Park & Rec – Campground: Ruell moved \$49,955, Lamos seconds. 4 yes, 2 nos. Motion carries. Hoerter moved, Downing seconds \$41,797 for Park & Rec Summer Vacation Program, 2 yes, 4 nos, motion fails. Ruell moved, Stewart seconds \$43,297 for Park & Rec Summer Vacation Program, 4 yes, 2 nos, motion carries. Ruell moves, Lamos seconds \$19,503 for Park & Rec After School Program. 4 yes, 2 nos. Motion carries. Ruell moves, Badger seconds \$123,304 for Park & Rec Total. 5 yes, 1 no.

Public Works Department: Stewart moves Line 115 Town Mechanic OT, be cut to \$1,200, Downing seconds. 4 yes, 2 nos. Motion carries. Ruell moves Town Mechanic bottom line to \$85,371, Hoerter seconds. It is pointed out the cut in OT for Town Mechanic affects other lines. Ruell & Hoerter rescind respective motion & second. Ruell moves, Hoerter seconds the following changes under Town Mechanic: FICA to \$3,308, Medicare to \$770, Retirement to \$6,073. Ruell moves, Hoerter seconds \$85,219 Town Mechanic. 5 yes, 1 no. motion carries.

Ruell moves, Badger seconds \$55,610 Property Taxation. 4 yes, 2 nos, Motion carries.

Budget Committee by consensus decides to table Street Lighting because there appears to be a discrepancy with the correct number. Street Lighting presently lists \$42,000.

Downing moves, Hoerter seconds Public Works, Highway OT to cut to \$15,000. 4 yes, 2 nos. Other lines effected are: PW FICA to \$11,534, Medicare to \$2,698, and Retirement to \$21,171. Ruell moves, Stewart seconds Public Works \$299,842. 5 yes, 1 no. Motion carries. Public Works: Highways & Streets, Downing moves, Hoerter seconds Highway Fuel line to be cut to \$20,000, 2 yes, 4 nos. Motion fails. Further discussion on Public Works Department. Ruell moves, Lamos seconds \$209,084 Highways & Streets. 5 yes, 1 no. Motion carries. Public Works: Transfer/Recycling: Badger moves, Stewart seconds \$142,540. 5 yes, 1 no. Motion carries.

Stewart moves, Hoerter seconds decreasing Line 320 Legal to \$15,000. 3 yes, 3 nos. Motion fails. Budget Committee tables Legal Line for now.

Hoerter moves, Downing seconds Land Use Board, PT Assistant Line 110, cut to \$650. 3 yes, 2 nos, Badger steps down. Downing moves, Hoerter seconds, Land Use Boards, Line 330 Legal, cut to \$3,000. 3 yes, 2 nos. 1 step down. Motion carries. Stewart moves, Hoerter seconds Land Use \$7,572. 4 yes, 1 no, 1 step down. Motion carries.

Ruell moves, Stewart seconds \$37,802 General Government. Downing discusses Line 611 Town Hall replace and repair windows issue. 4 yes, 2 nos, Motion carries. Downing moves, Hoerter seconds \$50 Cemetery. 5 yes. 1 abstention. Motion carries. Downing states 3 Cemetery Trustees went to training for \$80/each (\$240), which is not noted under Cemetery expenses. This was not a free seminar. Lamos moves, Hoerter seconds \$135,702 Insurance. 6 yes, Motion carries. Hoerter moves, Lamos seconds \$1 Other General Government. 6 yes. Motion carries.

Hoerter moves, Stewart seconds approval of October 23, 2017. 6 yes.

Stewart adjourns meeting at 8:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Bobbi Hoerter, Budget Committee Member