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**TOWN OF ASHLAND
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14TH, 2022, 5:30PM
UTILITY CONFERENCE ROOM
6 COLLINS STREET, ASHLAND, NH**

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- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - Chairman Eli Badger called the meeting to order at 5:30pm and requested roll call of the Selectmen. Chairman Eli Badger and Selectmen Andy Fitch, Bob Letourneau, Ann Barney and Alan Cilley were present.

MOTION: Andy Fitch

To approve the minutes of the February 7th meeting as written

SECOND: Ann Barney

VOTE: 5-0

MOTION PASSED

II. **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. **EQUALIZATION REPORT WITH TAX COLLECTOR** – Town Clerk and Tax Collector Patsy Tucker presented the Board with the Equalization report for signing. Mrs. Tucker explained to the Board that the report shows the discrepancies between the assessed value of properties and what those properties actually sold for. Mrs. Tucker explained that properties that sell for more than they were assessed for throw off the ratio therefore an equalization report must be signed and submitted to DRA. The next equalization study will be done next fall.

Once the Equalization report was signed by the Board, Mrs. Tucker asked to speak with the Board about the current revaluation. Mrs. Tucker stated that the contract with CNP includes dues to be paid for 2022 in the amount of \$22,000 and that the amount is not included in the default budget. Town Manager Fred Welch discussed with the Board that the current contract is charging \$57 per parcel for a total revaluation costing almost \$100,000. In comparison, Mr. Welch previously has done a revaluation for the Town of Hampton with 10,000 parcels for \$120,000 and it was completed in one year. Mr. Welch feels as though the current charges are unreasonable. Mr. Welch stated that he would speak with the assessors tomorrow and work on finding a solution quickly.

- b. **DEDICATION OF THE ANNUAL TOWN REPORT** – Mr. Welch and the Board discussed that the dedication should be made to Rusty Cross. Rusty went above and beyond what was asked of him, and he did so much for the Town.

- c. **CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM** – Chairman Badger discussed that there was a plan put together a few years ago that took 2 years to complete. Those who were apart of the committee that put the CIP together felt ignored when it was not used. David Toth worked to produce spreadsheets that would have allowed the Town to purchase 2 fire trucks and not overspend the budget. Some

46 of the current items that need attention are a new ambulance and that we are
47 renting trucks in the Electric department. Mardean Badger was present and added
48 that the CIP from 2015 was on the website. The Board and Mr. Welch discussed
49 that the CIP needs to be a looked at for the short and long term and combined
50 with the department heads find a way to start working on what can be achieved
51 with the limited finances we have. Some of the items discussed that need planning
52 to improve are the Town Hall, 6 Collins Street, the Fire Station, and the Scribner
53 building.

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55 **III. OLD BUSINESS – None**

56 **IV. SELECTBOARD ITEMS – None**

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58 **At this time the Board motioned to move into non-public session.**

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60 **MOTION:** Bob Letourneau

61 *To enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (C)*

62 **SECOND:** Andy Fitch

63 **MOTION PASSED**

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65 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch

66 *To seal the minutes of the non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3 II (C)*

67 **SECOND:** Alan Cilley

68 **VOTE:** 5-0

69 **MOTION PASSED**

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71 **MOTION:** Ann Barney

72 *To enter into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (B)*

73 **SECOND:** Bob Letourneau

74 **VOTE:** 5-0

75 **MOTION PASSED**

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77 **MOTOIN:** Andy Fitch

78 *To seal the minutes of the non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3 II (B)*

79 **SECOND:** Bob Letourneau

80 **VOTE:** 5-0

81 **MOTION PASSED**

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83 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch

84 *To adjourn the meeting at 6:54pm*

85 **SECOND:** Bob Letourneau

86 **MOTION PASSED**