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**TOWN OF ASHLAND
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 20TH, 5:30PM
UTILITIES BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM
6 COLLINS STREET, ASHLAND, NH**

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

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11 Selectman Bob Letourneau asked for a moment of silence in recognition of Rusty
12 Cross.

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14 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch

15 *To approve the minutes from the December 6th meeting as written*

16 **SECOND:** Bob Letourneau

17 **VOTE:** 5-0

18 **MOTION PASSED**

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20 II. **NEW BUSINESS**

21 a. **TRUSTEES OF THE TRUST FUNDS QUARTERLY AND FINAL**

22 **REPORT** – Amanda Loud spoke on behalf of the Trustees of the Trust funds to
23 give the Board an update on the trust funds. Ms. Loud stated that there are 10
24 funds, 5 of which are in legal. Of the 5 trusts in legal, one was the Scribner Trust
25 which has been renamed to the Scribner Building and Land Trust. Two of the
26 remaining trusts in legal are due to the trusts not having the Town tax ID on them,
27 the other two trusts are in legal as they have to do with the Green Grove
28 Cemetery. Ms. Loud asked that Town Manager Fred Welch reach out to legal to
29 check on the standings of the trusts. Ms. Loud also stated that some of the trusts
30 were not registered as trusts such as the Doggett Scholarship which was registered
31 as a school district. The Trustees have worked hard to have all of the trust funds
32 set up appropriately and have moved them to Vanguard which has lower fees, and
33 the Trustees feel that the trusts are moving in a positive direction.

- 34
35 b. **APPROVAL OF THE 2021 INVESTMENT POLICY** – Mr. Welch informed
36 the Board that the investment policy must be approved annually. Mr. Welch also
37 stated that it would need to be approved again at the first meeting of 2022.

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39 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch

40 *To approve the acceptance of the investment policy for 2021*

41 **SECOND:** Bob Letourneau

42 **VOTE:** 5-0

43 **MOTION PASSED**

46 c. **APPROVAL OF THE DEFAULT BUDGET** – The Board was presented with
47 the 2022 default budget. Mr. Welch explained that each line was discussed and set
48 by the rules from DRA.

49

50 **MOTION:** Ann Barney

51 *To accept the default budget for 2022 in the amount of \$7,220,800*

52 **SECOND:** Bob Letourneau

53 **VOTE:** 5-0

54 **MOTION PASSED**

55

56 d. **APPROVAL OF THE 2022 ESTIMATED REVENUES BUDGET-**

57 Mr. Welch presented the Board with estimated revenues for 2022, he stated that
58 the numbers used were based of the current year numbers but that the numbers
59 could change as changes arise.

60

61 **MOTION:** Bob Letourneau

62 *To accept the 2022 revenue budget totaling \$5,447,421 as subject to change.*

63 **SECOND:** Andy Fitch

64 **VOTE:** 5-0

65 **MOTION PASSED**

66

67 e. **APPROVAL OF THE OVERWEIGHT/OVER SIZED PERMITTED LOAD**
68 **AUTHORIZATION FOR EMEGENCY MOBILE SUBSTATION**

69 **TRANSPORT FROM EVERSOURCE** – Mr. Welch explained to the Board
70 that Eversource has 3 mobile transformer substations and in order for them to be
71 used, the towns they may pass through need to authorize the transport as they are
72 overweight.

73

74 **MOTION:** Bob Letourneau

75 *To approve the overweight/ oversized permitted load authorization for emergency*
76 *mobile substation transport from Eversource*

77 **SECOND:** Andy Fitch

78 **VOTE:** 5-0

79 **MOTION PASSED**

80

81 f. **TOWN CLOCK** – Mr. Welch spoke with the Church and at this time they do not
82 have plans to do work on the steeple therefore no work will be done to the clock.
83 Mr. Welch said that he will reach out to the Church again towards the end of next
84 year to see if there are any changes, if there are changes Mr. Welch will revisit the
85 removal of the clock faces. Ms. Loud made a comment that there is a capital
86 reserve fund for the town clock and it currently has around \$400 in it. Ms. Loud
87 said she would need to go back and look at the language that was used to establish
88 the account to see if those funds could be used toward the removal of the clock
89 faces.

90

91 g. **TAX MAP MAINTENANCE CONTRACT** – Mr. Welch presented the contract
92 with CAI to keep the tax maps up to date.

93
94 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch

95 *To approve the signing of the CAI maintenance contract for the tax maps*

96 **SECOND:** Alan Cilley

97 **VOTE:** 5-0

98 **MOTION PASSED**
99

100 **III. OLD BUSINESS**

101 a. Mr. Welch informed that Board that the close out of the sidewalk project has
102 occurred and the Town has received \$349,368.82 from the State. Mr. Welch also let
103 the Board know that he has queried the department heads on their encumbrances, a
104 list will be put together for the Board to review.

105
106 b. Mr. Welch informed the Board that the Graton’s will be working on the covered
107 bridge starting January 2nd or 3rd and it will be shut down for roughly 3 weeks
108 depending on weather.

109
110 c. Mr. Welch presented the Board with the preliminary Warrant for the Board’s
111 review. Mr. Welch also discussed with the Board the setting of the public hearing for
112 the \$5 Million warrant article for the sewer department, the Board decided to hold the
113 public hearing on January 17th. The Board also discussed setting the deliberative
114 session date which is to be February 5th at 10am.

115
116 d. Mr. Welch discussed with the Board about the sidewalk tractor that has been put in
117 as a draft warrant article. Mr. Welch explained that the company that provides the
118 tractor does not do lease purchases, therefore they may be stuck with a bond or note
119 in order to purchase. Mr. Welch expressed that he did not want to go for a bond for
120 this purchase but that purchasing out of an appropriation would deplete the funds for
121 the DPW. The Board did not make a decision at this time.
122

123 **IV. SELECTBOARD ITEMS** – None

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125 **MOTION:** Bob Letourneau

126 *To enter into a non-public session pursuant RSA 91-A:3, (C) & (D)*

127 **SECOND:** Andy Fitch

128 **ROLL CALL VOTE:** 5-0

129 **MOTION PASSED**
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131 Once out of the non-public session the Board had a motion.
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137 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch
138 To seal the minutes of the non-public session
139 **SECOND:** Bob Letourneau
140 **VOTE:** 5-0
141 **MOTION PASSED**
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143 **MOTION:** Bob Letourneau
144 To adjourn the meeting at 7:16pm
145 **SECOND:** Andy Fitch
146 **MOTION PASSED**
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