

ASHLAND BUDGET COMMITTEE

JANUARY 10, 2024

Members Present: Hughes, Unangst, Ruell, Coleman, Barney
Others Present: Alan Cilley, Craig Moore

The meeting was called to order at 6 p.m. in the conference room at 6 Collins Street.

Town Warrant Articles. Chairman Hughes had received the warrant articles at about 3:30 p.m. and distributed them at the meeting to the Committee members.

Article 3 Infrastructure for Thompson Street, High Street, Smith Hill Road and Winona Road (\$6,200,000). The article was discussed, but the Committee took no action on it.

Articles 4, 5, 6 and 7, for the Town budget and the three Utility budgets, had previously been voted on.

Article 8 Contingency Fund (\$25,000). On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Unangst, it was voted 4 to 1 to support the article.

Article 9 Waste to Energy Facility (\$135,000,000). The article was discussed at length with Cilley and Moore. On a motion by Barney, seconded by Hughes, the vote was 2 in favor, with 3 abstaining.

Article 14 Public Works Capital Reserve Fund (\$25,000). On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Barney, it was voted 5 to 0 to support the article.

Article 15 Road and Bridges Capital Reserve Fund (\$125,000). On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Unangst, it was voted 5 to 0 to support the article.

Article 16 Plow Truck (\$200,552). On a motion by Unangst, seconded by Barney, it was voted 5 to 0 to support the article.

Article 10 Infiltration/Inflow Study, LW Packard Mill (\$100,000). On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Unangst, to support the article, the vote was 4 in favor, with 1 abstaining.

Article 11 Fire Department Capital Reserve Fund (\$50,000). On a motion by Unangst, seconded by Coleman, it was voted 5 to 0 to support the article.

Article 12 Police Station Capital Reserve Fund (\$25,000). On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Barney, it was voted 5 to 0 to support the article.

Article 13 Police Department Capital Reserve Fund (\$25,000). On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Barney, it was voted 5 to 0 to support the article.

Article 17 Building Maintenance and Repair Capital Reserve Fund (\$25,000) On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Barney, it was voted 5 to 0 to support the article.

Article 20 Voices Against Violence (\$3000). On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Unangst, it was voted 5 to 0 to support the article.

Article 21 Pemi-Baker Hospice and Home Health (\$9692). On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Unangst, to support the article, it was voted 4 in favor, with 1 abstaining.

Article 22 Grafton County Senior Citizens Council (\$12000). On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Barney, it was voted 5 to 0 to support the article.

Article 23 Transport Central (\$1250). On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Unangst, it was voted 5 to 0 to support the article.

Article 24 Lakes Region Mental Health Center (\$3500). On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Unangst, it was voted 4 to 1 to support the article.

Article 25 Lakes Region Visiting Nurses (\$5000). On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Unangst, it was voted 4 to 1 to support the article.

Article 26 Library Building Capital Reserve Fund (\$25000). On a motion by Unangst, seconded by Coleman, to support the article, the vote was 3 in favor, 1 opposed, and 1 abstaining.

Article 27 Whipple House (\$3000). On a motion by Coleman, seconded by Barney, to support the article, the vote was 4 in favor and 1 abstaining.

The School and Town budget hearings will be held on at 6 p.m. on Thursday, January 11, in the school cafeteria. The Committee discussed budget hearing issues.

On a motion by Hughes, seconded by Coleman, it was voted to adjourn at 8:08 p.m.

David Ruell, acting Secretary