

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN
WORKSESSION MINUTES
DECEMBER 11, 2013 8:30 AM**

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 8:30 am with a roll call. Normand DeWolfe, Jeanette I. Stewart present.

Others Present: TA Branscombe, Pat Crowell and members of the Public.

Preston joined the meeting at 8:33 am.

David DiZoglio, 218 River Street, requested to speak to the Selectmen regarding a public safety issue. He spoke with Lee Nichols about having a street light installed, but Mr. Nichols said that there was no chance of that and he was wasting his time. The Chairman told him that he would need to be put on the electric department meeting agenda and talk with the Commissioners. DeWolfe said that the next meeting is December 17th at 7 PM at the Utility Office.

Supervisors of the Checklist budget – This line item, 01-4140-20-130, needs to be increased to \$5630 because of the special election day in January for County Commissioner. DeWolfe moved to increase the line item in the Supervisors budget to \$5630. Stewart seconded. All in favor.

Welfare – Branscombe said that the new Welfare Director has agreed that the general assistance line in the Welfare Budget can be reduced next year to \$55,000. DeWolfe moved that the new Welfare budget be reduced to \$55,000, a reduction of \$15,000. Stewart seconded. All in favor.

4th of July Committee – Branscombe stated that he has sent the vendor agreement to legal to look over. 90% of the budget will be sent to the Town by January 2, 2014. The Fireworks will need to be paid.

Spending Freeze – Preston moved to remove the spending freeze. Stewart feels we still need to be careful. After much discussion, the majority of the Board decided to continue the spending freeze and revisit the issue in January 2014.

Branscombe said that **Anne Getchell, USDA Rural Development**, visited the town office the other day. The purpose was to explore a grant for the town hall improvements. There were several issues in regard to ADA compliance that would need to be addressed before a grant could be considered.

Other Business – Signed purchase order for 2014 salt purchase.

It is a consensus of the Board that Christmas Eve, **December 24th**, should be a half day for employees to leave at 12:00 noon.

Selectmen signed an **abatement** which would be internal and no money would be going back to the owner.

Branscombe read the **Payroll and A/P numbers**. They are \$15,571.20 for Payroll, and \$499,141.47 for A/P. A/P includes the Ashland school and the county payment.

There being no further business Stewart moved to go into Non-Public Session per RSA **91-A:3, II (a) with a roll call @ 9:05 AM.**

NON-PUBLIC under RSA 91-A:3, II (c)