

ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12TH 2016
ASHLAND TOWN OFFICE
7:30 AM

The Board of Selectmen convened for a Wednesday morning meeting to start their review of departments requested 2017 budgets. Chairman Newton called the meeting to order at 7:30 AM. Present: Selectmen Steve Felton, Fran Newton, Leigh Sharps, Katie Maher and Harold Lamos. Also present was Town Administrator Charles Smith, Public Works Director Tim Paquette, Police Chief Tony Randall and Town Clerk/Tax Collector Patricia Tucker.

1. Public Works Director Tim Paquette presented to the board 2017s budget request for the Public Works Department, Highway and Streets, Town Mechanic, and the Transfer Station. Director Paquette discussed the various costs involved for the departments in the coming calendar year. The board asked the Town Administrator to research into the upcoming contract for landfill testing at the town landfill.
2. Police Chief Randall discussed the various changes in the department's budget, as such the changes in IT and its impact on the budget. Chief Randall reduced a prior year line item from the hiring of a recruit. Chief informed the board their recruit graduates from the academy in December, but still has 14 weeks of field training. Chief Randall requested the board add a miscellaneous line item to the department's budget, as the department's budget does not have a general expense line. Randall also reminded the board of the Chief's expiring contract. The board intends to review the Chief's contract for renewal and will consider amending the original contract ending in March so it coincides with a calendar year (January – December).
3. Town Clerk/Tax Collector Patricia Tucker also discussed with the board the departments upcoming 2017 budget. TC/TC Tucker requested an increase in the TC/TC position longevity line to bring the positions salary too similar TC/TC's in the state. For the boards reference TC/TC Tucker provided the board a job description for the TC/TC position.
4. Following the department's budget presentations Selectman Felton and Lamos gave the remaining Selectmen an update on the ongoing union negotiations. The board intends to have further discussions on the matter at their next work session meeting October 17th.

The board adjourned their meeting at 10:35AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Smith