

ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26TH 2016
ASHLAND TOWN OFFICE
7:30 AM

The Board of Selectmen convened for a Wednesday morning meeting to review departments request 2017 budgets. Chairman Newton called the meeting to order at 7:30 AM. Present: Chairman Fran Newton, Selectmen Steve Felton, Katie Maher and Harold Lamos, Selectman Leigh Sharps was absent. Also present was Town Administrator Charles Smith and the Town Clerk/Tax Collector Pat Tucker.

1. TA Smith informed the board that the Department of Revenue Administration was ready to set the tax rate. DRA was waiting to see if the Select Board wanted to use the unassigned fund balance to further reduce the towns rate. TA Smith and TC/TC Tucker discussed with the board about how the calculation of the property tax rate was determined and how the unassigned fund balance was used against the rate. The board voted to use \$80,000 of the unassigned fund balance to lower the tax rate.
2. TC/TC Tucker presented the board an abatement of taxes on a property in town. The board approved the abatement request. TC/TC Tucker also presented the board the town equalization form. The board signed the form.
3. The Select Board continued to review the Executive budget. The board approved the CIP and Insurance/Health budgets, Property Taxation, General Government Buildings, Cemetery, Building Inspector, Land Use and reviewed the Parks and Recreation budget. The board also asked the TA to follow up with further explanation on certain line items.

The board adjourned their meeting at 10:15 AM and scheduled their next 2017 budget meeting for Monday, October 31st at 7:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Smith