ASHLAND BUDGET COMMITTEE
MINUTES, JANUARY 8, 2014

Members Present: Scarano, Ruell, Badger, Cilley, Toth, Newton, Coleman, Heidenreich, Stewart, also alternates DeWolfe and Liebert (Heidenreich and Liebert left during the meeting. Newton and DeWolfe left and returned.)
Others Present: P. Branscombe, A. Cilley, E. Badger, S. Felton

The meeting began at 5:30 p.m. in the Ashland School conference room. After some discussion on procedure, the Committee voted on the Town budget.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Cilley, it was voted to recommend $10,924 for Executive. On a motion by Heidenreich, seconded by Newton, $12,423 was voted for Executive default budget, including increases in Salaries, FICA and Medicare for the increased number of selectmen, and a decrease for a contract in Website.

A motion by Coleman, seconded by Toth, to decrease Clerk Salary in Election & Registration to $20,584 failed on a vote of 3 to 4. On a motion by Newton, seconded by Stewart, it was voted 5 to 2 to recommend $36,369 for Election & Registration, correcting Medicare to $307 and FICA to $1315. On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Newton, it was voted to recommend $5000 for Ballot Coding. On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Cilley, $35,636 was voted for Election & Registration default budget, with increases in Retirement and in Election Salary and Election Advertising for more elections. On a motion by Newton, seconded by Stewart, $5000 was voted for Ballot Coding default budget, with an increase for more elections.

Coleman objected to raises for non-union employees.

A motion by Scarano, seconded by Coleman, to reduce Financial Computer Expenses to $12,370 failed on a vote of 2 to 6. On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Cilley, it was voted 6 to 1 to recommend $315,008 for Financial. On a motion by Newton, seconded by Cilley, $287,628 was voted for Financial default budget, including increases in Town Administrator Salary, FICA, Medicare and Retirement for a contract, contractual increase in health insurance, contractual decrease in Audit, contractual increase in Computer Expense, mandatory increases in Tax Collector FICA and Medicare for the Deputy, and increase in Tax Collector
Coleman expressed her concerns about cash flow, late payments to the school, and salary increases. There was a discussion of cash flow analysis, the spending freeze, and tax collection.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Stewart, it was voted to recommend $19,600 for Revaluation of Property. On a motion by Newton, seconded by Stewart, it was voted to recommend $15,000 for Legal. On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Cilley, it was voted to recommend $3000 for Unemployment. On a motion by Newton, seconded by Stewart, $19,600 was voted for Revaluation of Property default budget, with a decrease in the Assessing contract. On a motion by Stewart, seconded by Cilley, $15,000 was voted for Legal default budget. On a motion by Cilley, seconded by Badger, $10,000 was voted for Unemployment default budget.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Cilley, it was voted to recommend $3379 for Planning & Zoning. On a motion by Cilley, seconded by Stewart, $3304 was voted for the Planning & Zoning default budget.

On a motion by Badger, seconded by Toth, it was voted 4 to 2 to recommend $75,681 for General Government Buildings, with $52,364 for General Repair and $1 for Matching Grants. On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Toth, $35,550 was voted for General Government Buildings default budget.

On a motion by Badger, seconded by Ruell, it was voted to recommend $115,324 for Insurance, On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Cilley, it was voted to recommend $1771 for Regional Associations. On a motion by Cilley, seconded by Badger, it was voted to recommend $1 for Other General Government. On a motion by Badger, seconded by Ruell, $115,324 was voted for Insurance default budget, with contractual increases in Health, in Property, Auto & Liability and in Disability, and a contractual decrease in Workers Compensation. On a motion by Badger, seconded by Stewart, $1771 was voted for Regional Associations default budget. On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Coleman, $1 was voted for Other General Government default budget.

The Committee reviewed recommendations and default budget for non-salaried lines for the Police Department, but took no vote. (The committee had previously voted to change Matching Grants to $2500.) For the default budget, contractual decreases were noted for Health Insurance, Cable and Telephone and contractual
increases for Life Insurance, Copier lease and Police Dispatch.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Badger, it was voted to recommend $10,455 for Detail. On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Badger, $3137 was voted for Detail default budget.

On a motion by Toth, seconded by Cilley, it was voted to recommend $47,500 for Ambulance. On a motion by Badger, seconded by Toth, $47,500 was voted for Ambulance default budget.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Badger, it was voted to recommend $19,502 for Mutual Aid. On a motion by Badger, seconded by Ruell, $19,502 was voted for Mutual Aid default budget, a contractual increase.

The committee reviewed recommendations and default budget for Fire Department non-salaried lines, but took no vote. For the default budget, a contractual increase was noted for Telephone, and contractual decreases for Defibrillator Lease Purchase and Building and Grounds (the roof replacement).

On a motion by Badger, seconded by Stewart, it was voted 4 to 2 to recommend $12,342 for Building Inspector. On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Stewart, $9807 was voted for Building Inspector default budget.

On a motion by Badger, seconded by Toth, it was voted to recommend $2056 for Emergency Management. On a motion by Coleman, seconded by Stewart, $1000 was voted for Emergency Management default budget.

The committee reviewed recommendations and default budget for Public Works, but took no vote. For the default budget, a contractual decrease was noted for Health Insurance and a contractual increase for Life Insurance.

On a motion by Badger, seconded by Toth, it was voted to recommend $214,401 for Highways & Streets. On a motion by Badger, seconded by Stewart, $213,031 was voted for Highways & Streets default budget, including contractual increases for Garage Cable and Equipment Lease. On a motion by Badger, seconded by Cilley, it was voted to amend the recommended budget for Highways & Streets to $214,402, adding $1 for Equipment.

The committee reviewed recommendations and default budget for non-salaried
lines in Town Mechanic, but took no vote. For the default budget, contractual increases were noted in Health Insurance and Life Insurance.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Toth, it was voted to recommend $41,531 for Street Lighting. On a motion by Cilley, seconded by Stewart, $42,000 was voted for Street Lighting default budget.

The committee reviewed recommendations and default budget for Transfer/Recycling, skipping salary related lines and Solid Waste District Dues. A motion by Stewart, seconded by Ruell, for $2500 for Equipment Maintenance failed on a 2 to 4 vote, leaving the line at the previously voted $1200. No other vote was taken on Transfer/Recycling. For the default budget, a contractual increase was noted for Testing.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Cilley, it was voted to recommend $2354 for Health. On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Cilley, $2354 was voted for Health default budget. (Toth abstained from these votes.)

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Toth, it was voted to recommend $2700 for Animal Control. On a motion by Badger, seconded by Cilley, $2700 was voted for Animal Control default budget, including a contractual decrease for N.H. Humane Society.

On a motion by Toth, seconded by Stewart, it was voted to recommend $60,902 for Welfare. On a motion by Toth, seconded by Stewart, $75,000 was voted for Welfare default budget.

On a motion by Toth, seconded by Cilley, it was voted to recommend $47,390 for Parks & Recreation (general). This included prior votes of $2500 for Electricity, $650 for Cable and $500 for Telephone. On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Toth, $41,916 was voted for Parks & Recreation (general) default budget.

On a motion by Stewart, seconded by Ruell, it was voted to recommend $10,581 for Parks & Recreation-Campground. On a motion by Stewart, seconded by Ruell, $9631 was voted for Parks & Recreation-Campground default budget.

On a motion by Newton, seconded by Toth, it was voted 5 to 2 to recommend $29,381 for Parks & Recreation-Summer/Vacation, including prior votes of $8000 for Beach Salaries, $11,000 for Vacation Camp Salary, $2000 for Vacation Camp
Special Programs, $1800 for Vacation Bussing, and amended costs of $1178 for FICA and $276 for Medicare. On a motion by Cilley, seconded by Newton, $37,216 was voted for Parks & Recreation-Summer/Vacation default budget, including $50 for Beach Sewer.

On a motion by Cilley, seconded by Ruell, it was voted to recommend $7251 for Parks & Recreation-After School. On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Stewart, $6225 was voted for Parks & Recreation- After School default budget.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Stewart, it was voted to recommend $1893 for Parks & Recreation-Community. On a motion by Newton, seconded by Toth, $893 was voted for Parks & Recreation-Community default budget.

On a motion by Newton, seconded by Badger, it was voted to recommend $60,355 for Library. On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Badger, $59,605 was voted for Library default budget, including $150 in increased mandate and contracts and $100 in decreased contracts in General Expenses.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Newton, it was voted to recommend $23,189 for Patriotic Purposes. On a motion by Badger, seconded by Cilley, $23,689 was voted for Patriotic Purposes default budget, including a contractual increase in 4th of July Expenses.

On a motion by Newton, seconded by Toth, it was voted to recommend $646 for Town Trustees. On a motion by Stewart, seconded by Badger, $646 was voted for Town Trustees default budget.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Stewart, it was voted to recommend $1250 for Conservation Commission. On a motion by Newton, seconded by Badger, $1000 was voted for Conservation Commission default budget.

On a motion by Coleman, seconded by Toth, it was voted 4 to 3 to recommend $1 for Interest-TAN Notes. On a motion by Newton, seconded by Cilley, it was voted to recommend $178,545 for Debt Service Principal and $71,206 for Debt Service Interest. On a motion by Newton, seconded by Cilley, $178,545 was voted for Debt Service Principal default budget and $71,206 for Debt Service Interest default budget, included increases and decreases in interest payments. On a motion by Cilley, seconded by Stewart, $4500 was voted for Interest-TAN Notes default budget.
On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Stewart, it was voted 6 to 2 to recommend the warrant article for $25,000 for the police department vehicle capital reserve fund.

On a motion by Stewart, seconded by Ruell, it was voted 8 to 0 to recommend the warrant article for $125,000 for the Road Improvements Capital Reserve Fund.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Stewart, it was voted 8 to 0 to recommend the warrant article for $50,000 for the Fire Department vehicle capital reserve fund.

On a motion by Stewart, seconded by Ruell, it was voted 7 to 1 to recommend the warrant article for $47,000 for the lease purchase of a Transfer Station mini-loader.

On a motion by Stewart, seconded by Ruell, it was voted 5 to 3 to recommend the warrant article for $34,000 for the purchase of a Public Works pickup truck.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Stewart, it was voted 5 to 3 to recommend the warrant article for establishment of a motor vehicle registration fee for a municipal transportation capital reserve fund.

The committee discussed a petitioned warrant article for a matching grants expendable trust fund.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Toth, it was voted 8 to 0 to recommend the warrant article for $1000 for CADY.

On a motion by Cilley, seconded by Stewart, it was voted 8 to 0 to recommend the warrant article for $9342 for Pemi Baker Community Health.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Newton, it was voted 7 to 1 to recommend the warrant article for $2700 for Genesis.

On a motion by Ruell, seconded by Toth, it was voted 7 to 1 to recommend the warrant article for $3107 for Tri County Community Action Program.

The committee discussed the next meeting on January 9.

On a motion by Newton, seconded by Stewart, it was voted to adjourn at 9:48 p.m. Minutes by David Ruell