Chair David Ruell called the meeting to order at 5:32 pm.

**Members Present:** M. Badger, C. Cilly, S. Coleman, N. DeWolfe, H. Lamos, M. Scarano, D. Ruell, D. Toth

**Absent without notice:** J. Lyford

**Alternates Present:** F. Newton (BOS) (left meeting prior to adjournment)

### SCHOOL BUDGET

**Present:** M. Ormand, S. Bartlett, T. Temperino, R. Liebert

Superintendent M. Ormand presented an overview of the Ashland School District Proposed Budget for 2015-2016. The budget is presented with packet 2015-2016 Ashland School District Proposed Budget containing the following:

1. 2015/2016 Ashland Budget Detail
2. Proposed 2015/2016 Budget Information Packet
3. 2015/2016 Ashland Master Budget Summary
4. Ashland School District Warrant
5. 2014/2015 Report Year to Date for: Ashland General Fund

**Minutes:**

**Overview:**

- The general fund operational budget increases 4.4% over 2014/2015
- Final year of a three (3) year collective bargaining agreement of the Ashland Teachers Association which represents: 2% increase of the salary schedule and an increase of $2000.00 for professional development
- 2% merit pool for non-bargaining and administrative staff including the Principle
- Special Education increased 45.47% or $165,102 due to: (2014/2015 was 10.9% or $35,910)
  - Increase in out-of-district placements
  - In-district students requiring additional support
- Staffing changes:
  - Additional two (2) special education para-educators required by students’ IEP’s (Individual Education Plans)
  - Reduction of the Library/Media Specialist’s position to 0.50 FTE to 0.60 FTE
- Percentage of expenses to Total Budget are largely due to:
  - Salaries and benefits 67.76%
  - Contracted services 17.18%
- Revenue estimated for 2015/2016 has increased to $92,540 or 4.0%
  - Tax rate estimated input $0.3960
- Out of district placements $20,000.00
- Technology
  - Technology Coordinator new position for $27,998.00
Ashland School District Warrant

- **Motion** (C. Cilly) and second (H. Lamos) to recommend Article 4 as presented below:
  Shall the Ashland School District vote to raise and appropriate up to $50,000.00 to be placed in the previously established School Safety, School and Facilities Maintenance Trust Fund?
  
  Recommended by the Budget Committee  Yes  8  No  0  (no abstentions)

- **Motion** (N. DeWolfe) and second (H. Lamos) to accept Ashland School District estimated revenue in the sum of $914,964.00 for 2014/2015
  
  Vote  Yes  8  No  0

- **Motion** (N. DeWolfe) and second (D. Toth) to recommend Article 3 as written on the Ashland School District Warrant for the operating budget in the sum of $3,229,325.00. Should this article be defeated the default budget shall be $3,160,177.00, the same as last year.
  
  Recommended by the Budget Committee  Yes  8  No  0  (no abstentions)

- **Motion** (N. DeWolfe) and second (M. Badger) to approve the minutes of December 4, 2014 as written.
  
  Vote  Yes  6  No  0  Abstention  1

**Discussion**: Time and place of next meeting
  Next meeting December 29, 2014 @5:30pm Ashland Fire Department

Motion to adjourn meeting (Cilly) second (Lamos)

  Vote  Yes  6  No  0

Sandra Coleman