

ASHLAND BUDGET COMMITTEE

JANUARY 6, 2016

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: G. Dion, S. Downing, B. Hoerter, N. DeWolfe, C. Cilley, D. Ruell, W. Durack, S. Coleman, H. Lamos

OTHERS PRESENT: A. Cilley, J. Lyford, S. Felton, A. Staples, S. Weinberg, S. Heath, P. Tucker, T. Paquette, T. Randall

Meeting started at 7:13pm in the Elementary school café.

SCHOOL WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 2: Salaries of district officers

Hoerter approved this article, 2nd by DeWolfe in favor of salaries of district officers. 9 ayed, 0 nayed.

Article 3: Collective bargaining agreement for increases in salaries and benefits.

Teachers voted for this article 22-0

School board voted for this article 5-0

Teachers are paying 5% towards their insurance as of right now; they will be paying 3% more to make it 8%.

2016-2017 cost impact is \$28,394.

2017-2018 cost impact is \$48,845.

Ruell approved this article, 2nd by DeWolfe in favor of increases in salaries and benefits with additions of cost impacts. 9 ayed, 0 nayed.

Article 7: School safety, security and facilities maintenance trust fund

There is \$50,000. in capital reserves now

Monies to be put in this capital reserve from the June 30 unreserved fund balance available for transfer on July 1.

No amount to be raised by taxation.

Hoerter approved this article, 2nd by Lamos in favor of raise and appropriate up to \$75,000 to be placed in capital reserves. 9 ayed, 0 nayed.

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TOWN WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 1: Enter into a five-year lease/purchase agreement to obtain a new fire engine/pumper for \$485,163. plus interest. \$125,00 down payment to be withdrawn from the fire dept. capital reserve fund. Future annual lease payments will be \$79,078.

Felton discussed how the CIP advised the fire dept. Discussion was also about the pros & cons of a 5-year lease opposed to a 10-year lease.

5 members wanted the Selectboard to consider a longer lease term, and get back to the budget committee with figures.

Downing recommended this article, 2nd by DeWolfe in favor of this article as written.

5 ayed, 4 nayed (the ones that nayed was because of the term of the lease)

Article 2: Raise and appropriate \$800,000. for the purchase, renovation and furnishing of 41 School St. for the use of the Ashland Town Library.

DeWolfe recommended this article, 2nd by Downing in favor of this article. 3 ayed, 6 nayed.

Article 6: Raise and appropriate \$12,938. for the second year payment of the four year lease purchase of the transfer station mini loader.

DeWolfe recommended this article, 2nd by Dion in favor of this article. 9 ayed, 0 nayed.

Article 7: Raise and appropriate \$28,189. For the fourth year payment of the five year lease/purchase for the PWD loader.

DeWolfe recommended this article, 2nd by Durack in favor of this article. 9 ayed, 0 nayed.

Article 8: Raise and appropriate \$125,000. to be placed into the road improvement capital reserve fund.

DeWolfe recommended this article, 2nd by Durack in favor of this article. 6 ayed, 3 nayed.

Article 8: Raise and appropriate \$30,000. to be placed into the police dept. capital reserve fund.

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DeWolfe recommended this article, 2nd by Durack in favor of this article. 7 ayed, 2 nayed.

Article 10: Raise and appropriate \$50,000. to be placed into the fire dept. capital reserve fund.

DeWolfe recommended this article, 2nd by Lamos in favor of this article. 7 ayed, 1 nayed, 1 abstained.

Article 11: Establish a capital reserve fund for the dept of public works for the purpose of vehicle or equipment purchase, replacement or repair. To raise and appropriate \$35,000.

DeWolfe recommended this article, 2nd by Durack in favor of this article. 7 ayed, 2 nayed.

Article 12: To establish a capital reserve fund for building main and repair in the sum of \$25,000. This article is to be tabled until the 1-13-16 meeting. It needs to be rewritten to change establish to raise and appropriate. DeWolfe made the motion to table, 2nd by Lamos. 9 agreed.

Article 14: Authorize the collection of an additional fee for motor vehicle registrations in the amount of \$5.00 to be deposited in a capital reserve fund.

DeWolfe recommended this article, 2nd by Downing in favor of this article. 5 ayed, 4 nayed.

Article 18: Establish a capital reserve fund to be known as the emergency management capital reserve fund and to raise and appropriate \$1,000.

DeWolfe recommended this article, 2nd by Hoerter in favor of this article. 9 ayed, 0 nayed.

PETITIONED ARTICLES

Article 20: Raise and appropriate \$2,400. to support Voices Against Violence

Ruell recommended this article, 2nd by Durack in favor of this article. 7 ayed, 2 nayed.

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Article 21: If the article for purchasing and renovating 41 School St. for use of the town library fails, raise and appropriate \$25,000. to be placed into the Ashland library building fund capital reserve.

DeWolfe recommended this article, 2nd by Durack in favor of this article. 7 aye, 2 nay.

Article 24: Raise and appropriate \$1,000. for CADY.

Dion recommended this article, 2nd by Downing in favor of this article. 7 aye, 1 nay, 1 abstained.

Article 25: Raise and appropriate \$9,478. for Pemi-Baker Community Health.

Ruell recommended this article, 2nd by Durack in favor of this article. 7 aye, 1 nay, 1 abstained.

Article 26: Raise and appropriate \$7,000. to support Grafton county senior citizens council.

Durack recommended this article, 2nd by Cilley in favor of this article. 7 aye, 1 nay, 1 abstained.

Article 27: Raise and appropriate \$1,500. for the Day away program.

Durack recommended this article, 2nd by Hoerter in favor of this article. 8 aye, 0 nay, 1 abstained.

SALARIES

Election & Register:

Longevity: Downing made the motion, 2nd by Hoerter to reduce the selectman revised from 5% to 3% for the 39 weeks and reduce all affected lines. 5 aye, 4 nay.

Deputy clerk salary: Hoerter made the motion, 2nd by Downing to accept the figure of \$100. 8 aye, 1 nay.

Election salary: Coleman made the motion, 2nd by Durack to accept the figure of \$5,454. 9 aye, 0 nay.

Financial:

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Tax Collector: Cilley made the motion, 2nd by Lamos to accept the figure of \$18,000. 9 ayed, 0 nayed.

Downing made the motion, 2nd by Hoerter to decrease finance officer, tax collector longevity, and public works director from 5% to 3% and all salary related lines. 3 ayed, 6 nayed.

Cilley made the motion, 2nd by DeWolfe to accept the figure of \$37,765. for Finance officer. 5 ayed, 4 nayed.

DeWolfe made the motion, 2nd by Hoerter to accept the figure of \$6,010. for salary treasurer and to accept the figure of \$590. for salary deputy treasurer. 9 ayed, 0 nayed.

Downing made the motion, 2nd by Hoerter to decrease tax collector longevity from 5% to 3% and all salary related lines. 5 ayed, 2 nayed, 2 abstained.

Hoerter made the motion, 2nd by Downing to accept the figure of \$100. for salary deputy tax. 8 ayed, 1 nayed.

POLICE

Randall discussed salaries for his dept. He focused on Lt. Ulwick getting a larger percent wage increase than previously asked for. DeWolfe made the motion, 2nd by Durack to raise Lt. Ulwick salary from 3% to 5% and all salary related lines. 5 ayed, 2 nayed, 2 abstained.

FIRE

With previous discussion of raises in other depts. Coleman made the motion to raise Heath's salary 5%. There was no second. Chief Heath made the statement that "he was happy with what he was getting and that a raise was not needed. That his crew came first".

PUBLIC WORKS

Director salary: DeWolfe made the motion, 2nd by Ruell to accept the figure of \$53,432. 6 ayed, 2 nayed, 1 abstained.

Cilley made the motion, 2nd by DeWolfe to accept the bottom line figure of \$252,874. 6 ayed, 2 nayed, 1 abstained.

P&R CAMPGROUND

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DeWolfe made the motion, 2nd by Durack to accept the bottom line of \$9,658. to reflect previous changes. 9 ayes, 0 nays.

P&R SUMMER/VACATION PROGRAM

Ruell made the motion, 2nd by Hoerter to adjust FICA and Medicare lines to reflect the previous change and vote in beach salaries of \$6,000. and adjust the bottom line accordingly. 9 ayes, 0 nays.

LIBRARY

DeWolfe made the motion, 2nd by Lamos to accept the bottom line figure of \$61,340. 9 ayes, 0 nays.

Downing made the motion, 2nd by Hoerter to adjourn the meeting at 9:34pm. All ayes.

Ruell and Cilley brought to Dion's attention that there was an error on Care of Grounds. (pg. 3 of December 28th minutes). We will change it when we go over the minutes, but to be able to get the correct figure to the board before the school hearing, the change should reflect that the figure is \$17,500. not \$17,000.

Submitted by:

Christine Cilley