

ASHLAND BUDGET COMMITTEE

JANUARY 5, 2012

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: S. Felton, D. Ruell, C. Austin, M. Brown, I. Heidenreich, D. Golden, S. Coleman, M. Scarano, F. Newton

OTHERS PRESENT: P. Tucker, P. Branscombe, C. Thompson, J. Felton, D. Toth, A. Cilley

The meeting came to order at 6:00pm in the elementary school library.

On the minutes of December 22, 2011:

Page 2—last paragraph: Change Joe Vittum to being a union member. Add Karen's last name, which is Wheelock.

Newton made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept the minutes of December 22, 2011 with above changes. 8 members ayed. 1 member abstained.

On the minutes of December 28, 2011:

To include recap discussion on accumulated depreciation and capital reserve.

Felton made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept the minutes of December 28, 2011 with above addition. 8 members ayed. 1 member abstained.

Town position filing is to be done between January 25, 2012 and February 3, 2012.

On the question about the town administrators' and the police chiefs' salary. The town administrator gets \$59,900. BOS can review TA salary. Police chief gets a flat salary for 3 years.

There are 7 non-union employees. The 1.5% salary increase will increase the budget by roughly \$10,000.

Municipalities cannot give bonuses but can give merit increases and cost of living increases and stipends.

Ruell made the motion, 2nd by Scarano to favor the 1.5% raise for non-union employees. 5 members ayed. 4 members nayed.

Election & Register:

ER clerk salary to be \$20,584. ER clerk FICA to be \$1,276. ER clerk Medicare to be \$298. ER clerk retirement to be \$1,811.

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Financial:

Office wage Town Admin to be \$60,900. Office wage office to be \$62,100. Office FICA to be \$7,626. Office Medicare to be \$1,784. Office retirement to be \$8,873.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Brown not to include the \$3,000. stipend for P. Crowell. After some discussion, Heidenreich and Brown rescinded previous motion.

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Heidenreich to only recommend 1.5% salary increase for P. Crowell. 3 members ayed. 6 members nayed.

Coleman made the motion, 2nd by Felton to give P. Crowell the 8.5%, which equals \$2,750. for performance evaluation of current base salary. 7 members ayed. 2 members nayed.

Felton made the motion, 2nd by Newton to accept the figure of \$36,930. for the total salary for P. Crowell. 7 members ayed. 2 members nayed.

Ruell made the motion, 2nd by Felton to accept \$3,000. for additional monies paid to P. Tucker for office wage office. 7 members ayed. 2 members nayed.

Ruell made the motion, 2nd by Felton to accept the budget committee figure of \$280,958. for total financial. 7 members ayed. 2 members nayed.

Scarano made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept \$14,000. for police dept. overtime. 9 members ayed.

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Felton to accept \$22,964. for public works overtime. 7 members ayed. 2 members nayed.

At 8:15pm we discussed revenues.

Felton made the motion, 2nd by Newton to accept next year requested figure of \$62,000. for revenue from taxes. 9 members ayed.

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Felton to increase motor vehicle fee from \$250,000. to \$260,000. 9 members ayed.

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Felton to accept next year requested bottom figure of \$277,600. for other fees. 9 members ayed.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept next year requested figure of \$201,095. for revenue from federal or state or trust. 9 members ayed.

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Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept next year requested figure of \$174,881. for charges for services. 9 members ayed.

At 8:25pm we discussed electric dept.

L. Pack gets a raise, which is \$1.15 per hour, time times 40 hours, which comes to \$46.00 per week. Her salary is \$36,500. which with the raise is a 6-½% raise.

Ruell made the motion to increase computer expense from \$2,500. to \$45,000. After some discussion there was no second.

Felton made the motion, 2nd by Newton to increase computer expense from \$2,500. to \$25,000. 4 members ayed. 4 members nayed. 1 member abstained.

Scarano made the motion, 2nd by Ruell to increase computer expense from \$2,500. to \$15,000. After some discussion the motion was rescinded.

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Scarano to increase computer expense from \$2,500. to \$10,000. After some discussion the motion was amended to \$15,000. 6 members ayed. 1 member nayed. 2 members abstained.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Scarano to decrease electric postage from \$12,000. to \$6,000. 8 members ayed. 1 member nayed.

Felton made the motion, 2nd by Newton to decrease electric income from \$2,800,000. to \$2,700,000. 7 members ayed. 1 member nayed. 1 member abstained.

Our next meeting is Monday January 9, 2012 at 6:00pm.

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Newton to adjourn the meeting at 9:00pm. All members ayed.

Christine Austin, Secretary

