

ASHLAND BUDGET COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 18, 2012

DRAFT MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: M. Badger (non-voting), M. Brown, I. Heidenreich, D. Ruell, S. Felton, C. Austin, P. Preston, S. Coleman, D. Toth

MEMBERS EXCUSED: M. Scarano

OTHERS PRESENT: E. Badger, L. Davis, A. Cilley

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm in the Elementary School library.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by M. Brown to approve the minutes of September 13, 2012. (6-0) all members aye.

The committee discussed with Preston where the monies came from for the towns' portion of Collins St. Bridge. One of the big concerns was the \$11,000. taken out of the welfare line. It was said that there would be enough monies in welfare to finish out the year.

S. Felton went over cash balances of the town emailed by Anita.

At 7:15pm L. Davis and D. Ruell went over the library budget report.

Covered was: 1. Payroll 2. Collection 3. Cleaning 4. Downloadable book fees 5. Dues 6. Tech support and Web hosted catalog.

Downloadable book fees, cleaning and Tech support will need to be increased to figure given if we go to a default budget due to the fact that these are contractual obligations.

Wages: The \$9,000. that is left is enough to get them through the year.

Utilities & Phone: The web site is included.

Donations: Come in randomly, cannot count on them.

Code Compliance: \$1,626. was for circuits installations after fire inspection.

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Insurance: The library is not sure for how much they are insured for, but was told that if the building burns down, the insurance monies will be used to rebuild library.

The town of Ashland owns building, Scribners pay the insurance.

In the 2013 budget, the library will budget for sprinklers.

Joyce's janitorial does the cleaning and charges the library \$48. per week (that does include equipment and supplies).

The library was done presenting their budget at 7:40pm

Our November 15th meeting is to be held on the 2nd floor of the CAP building at 6:00pm. (the school is not available that evening). All other meetings to be held in the Elementary School library.

S. Felton to see if the Electric would like to present their budget on the October 25th meeting.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Brown to have the second financial forum be held Wednesday 12-12-12. D. Ruell to secure the school cafeteria for 6:30pm.

The budget committee will invite the utilities (water & sewer, electric) commissioners to join us.

Operation budgets and capital reserves are monies to be taken out of real estate taxes.

The town needs a minimum of 2 million dollars in capital reserves for the needs of the town for the next 10 years. Right now we have \$125,000.

We need to save \$125,000. for road repairs.

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Other things we need to save for and address is vehicle/equipment replacement for the police, public works, and fire department.

One of the fire department trucks is a 1983 and the ambulance is 12 years old.

Chief Heath is going to apply for a grant that if granted will pay 95% of the grant value.

We can write grants, but need to write the grant details in detail in a warrant article.

S. Coleman read a new law (effective May 2012) re: tax impact on warrant articles.

D. Toth suggested cutting services in the town

We discussed that the town and the utilities need a financial analysis review. This is different from the master plan.

Preston made the motion, 2nd by Heidenreich to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm. All members aye.

Christine Austin, Secretary