

ASHLAND BUDGET COMMITTEE

DECEMBER 10, 2012

DRAFT MINUTES

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

MEMBERS EXCUSED: S. Felton, M. Scarano

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:04pm in the Ashland Elementary library.

D. Toth presented a preliminary view of what is going to be presented at the financial forum on 12-12-12. There were a few suggestions from the budget committee for additions/changes. D. Toth is going to give them to S. Felton. The view was finished at 6:35pm. D. Toth left for the evening.

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Ruell to accept the minutes of December 6, 2012 as written. 5 members aye. 1 member abstained.

At 6:40pm the budget committee went over the electric budget.

The "in lieu of taxes" line, Nichols wanted that line increased to \$42,000. because the town turned 4 streetlights back on.

Coleman made the motion, 2nd by Heidenreich to change in lieu of taxes to \$42,000. 6 members aye.

L. Pack and L. Nichols are salary. The rest of the employees (Joe, Mel, Devin, Karen) are union employees. Union members got a 2.8% increase in wages throughout the budget. The only way that Pack and Nichols could get a raise is if the electric commissioners approve one. Nichols says he will not take a raise. Pack's salary comes out of billing and accounting. Kay is union, water & sewer reimburse her salary and the reimbursed money goes into misc income/other.

The 2.8% increase in labor needs to go into the 2013 default budget due to the union raise.

The \$20,000. that is in the hydro maintenance expense line is for dues. We are considered a high risk.

The \$125,000. in the depreciation line will go into a capital reserves account. This year there is \$250,000. that has been put into a capital reserves account. The electric dept paid cash for their bucket truck. They have a \$90,000. credit with VSPA.

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Preston made the motion, 2nd by Coleman to accept the total final budget figure to be \$3,105,912. 6 members ayed.

The changes for the default budget would be telephone back to \$6,000. Postage back to \$6,000. Engineering back to \$1.00. Legal back to \$2,000. Computer expense back to \$15,000. Hydro maintenance expense back to \$45,000. Nichols to get the changes to the labor lines for the default budget back to us. All other figures will stay the same.

We finished with the electric at 7:20pm.

The budget committee discussed revenues. Parking fees at the beach were mentioned.

Ruell made the motion, 2nd by Brown to change Payments in lieu of tax from \$58,462. to \$59,252. All members ayed.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Preston to accept the preliminary revenue figure for charges for services in the amount of \$147,500. pending updated figures. All members ayed.

Preston to get the committee the new updated figures.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept the preliminary revenue figure for fed or state trust in the amount of \$196,000. pending updated figures. All member ayed.

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Preston to accept the preliminary revenue figure for other fees in the amount of \$276,000. pending updated figures. 3 members ayed. 3 members nayed.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Coleman to table the remainder of revenues until the committee gets updated figures. All members ayed.

Election & Register: Ballot Coding

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Coleman to accept the figure of \$4,300. for bottom line figure for ballot coding for budget committee and default budget. All members ayed.

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Brown made the motion, 2nd by Preston to accept the figure of \$111,558. for bottom line figure for insurance for budget committee and default budget. All members ayed.

Brown made the motion, 2nd by Coleman to accept the figure of \$47,500. for bottom line figure for ambulance for budget committee and default budget. 5 members ayed. 1 member nayed.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Brown to accept the figure of \$1,771. for bottom line figure for Lakes Region Planning Commission for budget committee and default budget. All members ayed.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Coleman to change the bottom line figure for street lighting for budget committee and default budget from \$41,531. to \$42,000. All members ayed.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Coleman to decrease the town trustees salary line from \$600. to 0.00. Fica and medicare to follow. 3 members ayed. 2 members nayed. 1 member abstained.

Coleman brought up the discussion with the committee that no other boards or committees in the town of Ashland get a stipend except for town trustees and BOS.

Coleman made the motion, 2nd by Heidenreich to decrease the BOS salary line from \$4,800. to 0.00. Fica and medicare to follow. 3 members ayed. 2 members nayed. 1 member abstained.

Heidenreich made the motion, 2nd by Coleman to adjourn the meeting at 8:15pm. All members ayed.

Christine Austin, secretary

