

Ashland Town Library Minutes with the Budget Committee for October 3, 2013 (Draft)

Those in attendance: Library Trustees: Lynn Davis, David Ruell (Budget Committee), Alice Staples; Library Director: Sara Weinberg; Budget Committee: Mark Scarano, Christine Cilley, David Ruell, Fran Newton, Sandra Coleman, Ingrid Heidenreich, Dave Toth; Board of Selectmen: Jeannette Stewart, Normand DeWolfe, Phil Preston; Other Town Officials: Paul Branscombe, Rita Donaldson, Patsy Tucker; Members of the Public.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

The Budget Committee welcomed Rita Donaldson, the new town finance director.

Budget Committee business was discussed prior to budget reports presented by the Tax Collector (Patsy Tucker) and the Library Trustees. The Town Trustees were also scheduled to discuss their budget, but were not present.

The Library Trustees presented their budget with explanations of budget lines, changes in the budget and suggestions for a default budget. David also presented our new salary schedule. There was a lengthy discussion about this being a transition year to align current salaries with the new salary schedule. The Budget Committee was pleased that, even with salary increases, we were able to level fund the salary line. Alice closed our presentation with information about the number of patrons who frequent the library, home visits, children and adult programs among other library activities. She also mentioned our ongoing talks with Tom Samyn and the Tri-County CAP people about a possible move to the old school building. Mark Scarano asked if there was any way for the library to partner with another library to combine resources. We explained that combining library services between towns is rare and that residents generally like Ashland the fact that the Ashland Town Library knows their patrons well and clearly understands their needs.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on Monday, October 21, 2013 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynn Davis, Secretary