CALL TO ORDER: Eli Badger, chair of the Ashland Water and Sewer Commission, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Present for the meeting were Eli Badger, Alan Cilley and David Toth

OTHERS PRESENT: Others present for the meeting were Christine Cilley, Mardean Badger, Fran Newton, Rusty Cross, and Normand DeWolfe.

NEW BUSINESS: Rusty Cross submitted the monthly Utility Partners reports to the Commissioners. He submitted to the Commissioners two price quotes for trucks, one from Auto Serve and the other from Cantin Chevrolet. He quoted prices for trucks with and without a hoist.

He advised the Commissioners that the new meter installation process would be completed by Thursday, March 3. There will be a few new meters that will need to be installed in the spring. Rusty and Eli are going to test the new meters on Friday, March 4.

The Commissioners discussed the Pilot Project which centers on the Septage Receiving Station. The focus of the discussion was the installation or removal of several large barrels for the collecting of liquid waste. David Toth pointed out that with the removal of the barrels and moving the present containers nearer the flume would cut down on engineering costs for the Pilot Project. With this approach the Commissioners could still test their present containers as well as remove the containers when necessary more quickly and more cheaply. It is anticipated that there will be engineering costs connected with the next phase of the Pilot Project which the Commissioners hope to begin by the end of calendar year 2016.

The Commissioners had discussions with Utility Partners and Tom Schwartz from Woodard and Curren about the removal of the barrels.
The Commissioners will meet with Michelle Roberts concerning problems with GIS. As part of the permitting process which is part of the Pilot Project the Commissioners will have to submit an annual report concerning maintenance of the Septage Receiving Station and an up to date GIS map. Michelle Roberts will work with Rusty Cross about hands on approach to the GIS system and the necessary maps.

The Commissioners discussed the issue of a Right to Know Policy for the department. The Commissioners need to create a list of reports that can be distributed to members of the public, the Budget Committee and the Town Selectboard upon request. Over the next couple of weeks the Commissioners will determine which reports will be needed by the Budget Committee and the nature of the reports the public is most likely to ask for.

David Toth advised the Commissioners that for the month of February, 2016 the department brought in $60,000 in income and spent $28,000 in expenditures. Going forward David Toth will take each weekly revenue report and create a comparison to date report.

David Toth has updated the Project Management spreadsheet displaying only current and/or future projects. This spreadsheet can now be seen on the town website.

The Commissioners discussed briefly the idea of how to most effectively use the field near the plant. They discussed leasing the field to a private contractor which looks like a good idea at this time. They discussed installing solar panels in the field but were concerned about what would happen to the solar panels in the event of a power outage in the area.

ADJOURNMENT: With nothing more to come before the Commissioners David Toth made a motion to adjourn. Alan Cilley seconded the motion. With three votes in the affirmative the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Paula Hancock
For the Ashland Water & Sewer Dept.