CALL TO ORDER: Eli Badger called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Members present for the meeting were Eli Badger and David Toth.

OTHERS PRESENT: Others present for the meeting were Steve Bullard, of Utility Partners, Rusty Cross and Mardean Badger.

NEW BUSINESS: Rusty advised the Commissioners that he has spent most of his time plowing the recent snowstorms and completing some maintenance projects. He has been researching the cost of 291’ of slip lining (tubing) for water and sewer pipes. He has no cost estimate of the tubing.

The Water and Sewer Commissioners will need to contact Nobis Engineering regarding the renewal and price of the Water and Sewer Department’s groundwater permit.

Rusty advised that the costs of the groundwater permit are increasing because of the increased demand from the State for additional data/information. The State needs more:

- Data
- GIS location contour maps

Eli advised the Commissioners that the Dept. has GIS location contour maps that are presently downloadable. The remainder of the information the State is requesting can be obtained through our GPS Project data. The Dept. needs to see what data/information we can take care of ourselves. Melissa is available to assist us with data collection and to train dept. employees on information retrieval and data entry using GIS and GPS systems/programs.

The Commissioners discussed the projects going forward:

- John McKenna did an SRF for Thompson Street. The Commissioners wonder if they can use their upcoming SRF for Winona Road instead of Thompson Street.
• The Town would pay for Thompson Street and the Water and Sewer Dept. will pay their portion of the bond for the Thompson Street project.
• The Commissioners will meet with John McKenna in March.
• Jeff Hayes emailed the Commissioners to advise that there is another Northern Borders grant available this year.
• The Commissioners need to spend their monies from their first Northern Borders grant. The Commissioners need to spend at least 70% of the first grant monies by July 30, 2017.
• The Commissioners need to meet with Jeff Hayes
• The Commissioners need to start the project in 2017 and be able to complete the project in 3 years.

Steve Bullard discussed with the Commissioners another model/method of completing projects. One method/model he discussed was DBO (Design/Build/Operate). Steve advised that the best method/model for Ashland might be an RFP. The Commissioners were interested in talking with H2O about creating an RFP for projects going forward. The Commissioners need to clarify what DBO really means. The Commissioners can earmark funds or use Northern Borders grant monies. The Commissioners will look at RDA grants for Clean Water issues/projects. There is additional funding available for desalinization projects.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

David made a motion to adjourn. Eli seconded the motion. With two votes in the affirmative the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 PM.

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