

Ashburnham Advisory Board Meeting
June 9, 2014
Ashburnham Public Safety Building
Training Room

Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m.

Members present:

Bill Johnson, Chairman Joe Oliveira Jamie Piedrafite Gail Dumont
Bruce Whitney Allison Weissensee Ronald Putnam

B. Johnson made an introduction of the two newest members of the Advisory Board; Allison Weissensee and Ronald Putnam. Welcome Allison and Ron, thank you for your time and interest.

There was a reorganization of the Advisory Board. A motion was made by J. Oliveira for B. Johnson to remain as chairman of the board. Seconded by B. Whitney. Unanimous.

A motion was made by B. Johnson for J. Oliveira to become the vice-chair. Seconded by B. Whitney. Unanimous.

A motion was made by B. Johnson for J. Piedrafite to become the secretary. Seconded by J. Oliveira. Unanimous.

The Stevens Memorial Library Board of Trustees requested a reserve fund transfer of the \$2500.00 deductible for the water damage insurance claim of Friday, January 3, 2014. A motion was made by G. Dumont, seconded by R. Putnam. Unanimous.

Year end inter-departmental transfers totaling \$162,075 will come out of the Ash/West Regional School account. This money became available through a reduced assessment due to the school's E&D account exceeding the 5% of budget the state allows.

Snow and ice wages from a difficult winter...\$124,075.

Unanticipated legal service... for VMS (\$2,500), Library Director personnel issues (\$7,500), APD grievance (\$1,500), Tennessee Pipe Line (\$1,000)...total \$15,000.

AFD overtime, Battalion Chief Salo early retirement due to injuries sustained in a non-work related incident...\$15,000.

Veteran's Benefits continue to increase...\$8,000.

A motion was made by J. Oliveira to approve the year end transfers. Seconded by B. Whitney. Unanimous.

A motion was made by B. Whitney to accept the minutes from the Annual Town Meeting Advisory Board meeting on 5-6-14. Seconded by J. Piedrafite. Five accept. Two abstain.

Reviewed the May 6, 2014 Town Meeting. Pro's and con's on how the articles were presented. J. Oliveira recommended more information and in-depth explanation of our tax rate. Possible use of an overhead screen to explain the town's budget information. Advisory Board needs to be better prepared and Selectmen need to participate and be more involved. These areas will be reviewed and discussed again.

Looking forward...brief discussions on FY15 AWRSD budget, the Library Trustees and changes, discussion and explanation of Free Cash, Stabilization, and the Capital Plan.

Brainstorming ideas for services, road repair and improvement and for the possible move of the DPW. Agreement that information needs to reach the public in a timely fashion and involve more preparation.

A motion was made by B. Johnson to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by J. Oliveira. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

~Gail Dumont