

**Town of Ashfield**

**Select Board and Finance Committee budget meeting**

**February 01, 2016**

The Select Board and Finance Committee had a joint meeting for the purpose of a 2017 budget discussion. The meeting was held at the Ashfield Town Hall in the Main Hall on February 01, 2016 at 7:00 PM. There were no audio recorders at the meeting.

**Select Board:** Chair -Tom Carter. Vice Chair- Ron Coler

**Finance Committee:** Tom Schreiber, Carol Lebold, Lindy Gougeon

**Town Administrator:** Kayce Warren

**Asst. Municipal Clerk/Scribe:** Lynn Taylor

This meeting was to discuss the budgets for the following departments: Doug Field; **Emergency Manager and Blackboard connect**, Warren Kirkpatrick; **Animal Control** and Judy Haupt; **Park Commission**

**SB meeting called to order @ 7:02 PM**

**Fin. Comm. meeting called to order @ 7:07 PM**

Carter reads the Town Caucus Warrant scheduled for March 15, 2016 @ 7:00 PM into the record and the votes with their signatures to sign the Warrant.

Carter takes a moment to thank Lindy and Carol for joining the Finance Committee.

**Emergency Manager:** Field gives an overview of the Dept. and its function during an emergency. Carter questions Field about grants for the Emergency Manager Field explains that there is not much for grants out there. He did however get a grant a couple of years ago for a computer. Field is requesting an increase for the Emergency Manager wages from \$550.00 to \$600.00, Assistant from \$350.00 to \$375.00 for an overall increase for FY17 of \$75.00. Doug is thanked for all of his work.

**Blackboard Connect** will stay level funded at \$2486.00 again this year, however may increase for FY18. Which Field figured out is \$1.91 per household per year.

**Animal Control:** Warren Kirkpatrick presents his budget to the Boards. Kirkpatrick is looking to increase his wages from \$2000.00 to \$2300.00, add \$150.00 for training, and increase mileage from \$400.00 to \$500.00 total increase of \$550.00 for FY17. Kirkpatrick also has a discussion with the Board regarding Joining the Franklin County Sheriffs Kennel at a fee of \$350.00 per year. He feels that this would be the right move rather than spending \$20000.00 to build our own kennel. The State will in the near future making the Towns have an inspected kennel. Carter

questions if this amount could be funded from the revolving dog fund account. Warren is thanked for all of his work.

**Park Commission:** Judy Haupt, Kyle Taylor, and Sally Rice are at the meeting. Haupt presents the budget to the Boards. Increase of wages from \$6585.00 to \$6600.00, utilities from \$1070.00 to \$1108.00, and water testing from \$720.00 to \$750.00 for a total increase of \$233.00. Carter suggests looking into the rates of lifeguards in other areas to make sure they are getting paid enough money.

There is a discussion pertaining to the replacement of the dock. Haupt feels that there is no way that the dock will be replaced until next year. There is a lot to do prior tearing out and replacing the dock including but not limited to permitting. There is thought of replacing the original dock with a floating dock versus replacing with the same style a floating dock would last much longer than a permanent in place dock. There is question about liability insurance on the dock Kayce will check with MIIA. Wayne Wickland advises Haupt that she should be careful when taking any State money. A facebook page has been set up for the Park Commission. The Park Commission is thanked for all their work.

Carter reviews the last page of the budget with the new Finance Committee members explaining what each of the numbers means and where it comes from.

Letter from the Town of Warwick (**document 3**) looking for information regarding population and amount of funds allocated to the pipeline coalition. Which brings up a discussion from Ron Coler regarding setting up an account that citizens can make donations to oppose the pipeline. Carter questions that if we do that where is the money going and how is it to be spent. This discussion will happen again when Olanyk can be at the meeting to weigh in on the discussion.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the SB meeting at 9:12 PM

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the Fin Comm. meeting at 9:12 PM

Both meetings are adjourned at 9:12 PM

### **Document List**

1. Agenda 02/01/2016
2. See Fy17 Budget books for individual budgets submitted
3. Letter from the Town of Warwick