

**Town of Ashland**  
**Regular Town Council Meeting**

**February 11, 2025**

**Present:** Chairman Tyler Michaud, Sherri Calhoun, Christopher Bessey, Gerard Raymond, Gayle Burby and Interim Town Manager Kevin Bushey.

**Absent:** None

- I. **Call meeting to order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Michaud.
  
- II. **Public comments:** None
  
- III. **Consent items:**
  1. Review, approve and sign minutes from January 14, 2025, Regular Town Council Meeting. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve January 14, 2025, Regular Town Council Minutes. Chris Bessey seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. Sherri Calhoun Abstained due to not being at the meeting. Review, approve and sign minutes from January 22, 2025, Public Hearing Meeting. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve January 22, 2025, Public Hearing Minutes. Gerard Raymond seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. Chris Bessey Abstained due to not being at the meeting. Review, approve and sign minutes from February 3, 2025, Special Town Council Meeting. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve February 3, 2025, Special Town Council Minutes. Gerard Raymond seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. Gayle Burby Abstained due to not being at the meeting.
  2. Review, approve and sign Treasurer Warrants #2V, #2P, #3V, #3P, #4V, #4P, #5V, and #5P. A motion was made by Sherri Calhoun to approve the noted warrants. Seconded by Chris Bessey. No discussion. Motion carried.
  
- IV. **New Business:**
  1. Review Ashland Snowmobile Club application for BYOB Permit. The Ashland Snowmobile club is having its annual auction at the rec on April 5, 2025, from 6-10 pm. They have submitted an application for a BYOB permit. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve the BYOB permit for the snowmobile auction. Chris Bessey seconded. No discussion. Motion Passed.
  2. Select interest rate option for 2025 Tax Anticipated Note. (TAN) The first option is an interest rate of 6.47% with Katahdin paying the legal fees. Or the second option is an interest rate of 5.07% with the borrower paying the legal fees. Interim Town Manager Kevin Bushey recommends option 1. Sherri Calhoun made a motion to approve the interest rate of 6.47% with Katahdin paying the legal fees. Chris Bessey seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion Passed.
  3. Review and approve or reject equipment sale bids. Sherri Calhoun made a motion to accept the highest bids for the 1975 CAT D-4 Dozer, the 1995 Ford M L9000 Dump Truck and the 1995 Trackless Sweeper. Chris Bessey Seconded. No discussion. Motion Carried. No Bid was placed on the 2012 Chevy Tahoe. Chris Bessey said the council could put it out for a bid again with a lower opening bid or bring it to Greggs Auction in Mapleton and let him deal

with it. After some discussion, Sherri Calhoun made a motion to pursue disposing of the Chevy Tahoe through Greggs Auction. Chris Bessey Seconded. Motion Carried.

4. Review and approve or reject proposed Police Department jurisdictional law enforcement authority. After some discussion about the incident in Portage and the Ashland Police responding to the call. Sherri Calhoun made a motion to approve jurisdictional law enforcement authority under MRSA 30-A, S2671.2-A. to all sworn Ashland police officers. Chris Bessey seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.
5. Budget committee report and recommendation to approve 2025 Town Budget. The Budget Committee recommends passing the budgets for General Government Expenses, Highway Dept, Library, Recreation Dept, Code Enforcement, and Fire Department. General Administration Gerard Raymond asked why the Treasurer got a \$10,000.00 raise. And what do other towns pay their treasurers. Interim Town Manager Kevin Bushey said the council approved the raise and her title change. Chair Michaud explained that if they wanted to talk further about the Treasurer's pay increase that they needed to go into executive session. Sherri Calhoun made a motion to approve expenses as budgeted for the General Government Budget. Chris Bessey seconded the motion. 3 councilors approved and 2 abstained. Motion passed. Highway Department- The highway department will not hire a third person. They will have an on call for snow plowing to help when needed. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve the expenses as budgeted for the Highway Department. Chris Bessey seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. Library Department- Sherri Calhoun made a motion to approve the expenses as budgeted for the library. Chris Bessey Seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. Recreation Department- Sherri Calhoun made a motion to approve the expenses as budgeted for the Recreation Department. Chris Bessey seconded. All in favor. Motion passed. Code Enforcement- Chair Michaud had a question if the salary was a stipend amount? Interim Town Manager Kevin Bushey said yes it was. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve the expenses as budgeted for the Code Enforcement Department. All in favor. Motion passed. Fire Department- Sherri Calhoun made a motion to approve the expenses as budgeted for the Fire Department. Chris Bessey seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. Other Expenses- The Budget committee recommended to take \$40,000.00 they were going to use to replace the fence at the Trotting Park. To use it to get the hood and ventilation set up for the stove at the rec center. Chair Michaud doesn't think the town of Ashland should cut wood next year. He thinks they should let the wood grow. He doesn't feel like it's worth cutting for the money we get. The wood we have on the town land is not very marketable. The council will wait and talk to Prentiss & Carlyle. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve the expenses as recommended for Other Expenses. Chris Bessey seconded. All in favor. Motion carried. Estimated Income- Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve Estimated Income as budgeted. Chris Bessey seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

**V. Old Business:**

A Motion was made by Sherri Calhoun to go into an Executive Session to discuss personal issues per Maine State Law Title (1M.R.S.A Section 405-6A). Chris Bessey seconded. Motion Passed. Executive Session started at 7:45 PM.

A Motion was made by Sherri Calhoun to end The Executive Session, Chris Bessey seconded. Motion Passed. The Executive Session ended at 8:11pm.

VI. **Manager's Report:**

- 1.** Interim Town Manager Kevin Bushey read two letters from the Sheriff's Department regarding Officer Maloney and the bravery and his courageous actions at the standoff in Portage.
- 2.** Interim Town Manager Kevin Bushey inquired what the policy is regarding the town office closing during a snowstorm. Town Office usually closes if the school closes. Chris Bessey motioned to give the town manager authority to make decision to close the Town Office during a snowstorm. Sherri Calhoun seconded. All in favor. Motioned passed.

VII. **Adjournment:** Sherri Calhoun motioned to adjourn the meeting, Chris Bessey Seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Susan Jimmo

Recording Secretary

---

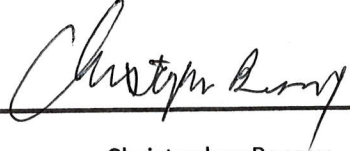
Tyler Michaud, Chairman

  
Gerard Raymond



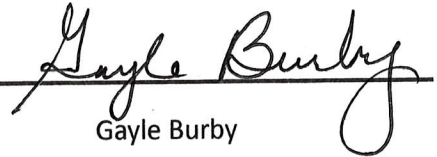
---

Sherri Calhoun



---

Christopher Bessey



---

Gayle Burby