

**Town of Ashland**  
**Regular Town Council Meeting**  
**September 10, 2024**

**Present: Chairman:** Chairman Tyler Michaud, Sherri Calhoun, Christopher Bessey, Gerard Raymond, Gayle Burby and Interim Manager Chelsea Stratton

**Absent: None**

I. **Call meeting to order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chair Michaud.

II. **Public comments:** No Public Comments

III. **Consent items:**

1. Review, approve and sign minutes from the August 13,2024 Regular Town Council Meeting and, August 22, 2024, Special Town Council Meeting. A motion was made by Sherri Calhoun to sign the minutes for the August 13, 2024, Town Council Meeting. And, to sign minutes for the August 22,2024 Special Town Council Meeting. Seconded by Chris Bessey, Chair Michaud abstained from signing the minutes from the August 13, 2024, meeting due to being absent. Motion carried.

2. Review, approve and sign treasurer warrants #32V, #32P, #33V, #33P, #34V, 34P, #35V and, #35P. A motion was made by Sherri Calhoun to approve the noted warrants. Seconded by Chris Bessey. No discussion. Motion carried.

IV. **Executive Session to discuss personal issues per Maine State Law Title (1M.R.S.A. section 405-6A):** Sherri Calhoun motions to go into Executive Session. Chris Bessey seconded the motion. Motion passed. Executive session started at 6:34 PM.

Sherri Calhoun motions to come out of Executive Session. Chris Bessey Seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. Executive Session ends at 7:09 PM.

V. **New Business:**

1. **Approve Appointment of Police Chief:** Motion was made by Sherri Calhoun to approve the appointment of Chris Cyr as The Police Chief in Training and Code Enforcement Officer from October 1, 2024, to November 4, 2024, when Cyr Martin will officially resign, and Chris will take over as Police Chief. Chris Bessey Seconded. No Discussion. Motion Carried. After the motion passed Chris Cyr gave a synopsis of objectives he would like to make happen as Police Chief.

2. **Fire Department water Backflow Preventor:** During a recent inspection of the plumbing in the Municipal Building the Ashland Water & Sewer District noticed that the main line feeding the firehouse doesn't have any backflow prevention device on the 4" line feeding the firehouse. Sherri Calhoun motioned to get at least 2 quotes to get the plumbing on the water systems up to code. Chris Bessey Seconded. No discussion. Motioned carried.
  
3. **Auditor Quotes:** The Town of Ashland received a letter from Felch & Company LLC, Certified Public Accountants informing the town that the firm could no longer perform the Town's annual financial statement audit because of the company's staffing and workload. The Town received 4 quotes from Certified Public Accountant firms. Tammy Gagnon, Auditor for the town recommends Ron Beaulieu & Company. They go by an hourly rate. The Council wants Interim Town Manager Chelsea Stratton to reach out to Ron Beaulieu to find out what his hourly rate is and a ballpark figure on how much towns normally pay.

**Executive Session to discuss personal issues per Maine State Law Title (1M.R.S.A. section 405-6A):** Sherri Calhoun made a motion to go into Executive Session. Chris Bessey Seconded. No discussion. Motion Carried. Executive session started at 7:30 PM.

Sherri Calhoun made a motion to come out of Executive Session. Chris Bessey seconded. Motion carried. Executive Session ended at 7:57 PM.

**VI. Old Business:**

1. A motion was made by Sherri Calhoun that Chairman Michaud assemble an Interview Committee made up of council members and a couple community members. Chris Bessey seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

**VII. Managers Report:**

1. Interim Town Manager Stratton gave a list of items going for bid at the town garage. The council wants the bids in sealed envelopes, and they reserve the right to refuse all bids.
2. The Tax Assessor sent a list of abatements that need to be approved and signed by the council. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve the Abatements totaling \$14,913.15. Chris Bessey Seconded. No discussion. Motion Passed.
3. The town and Council need to start thinking who they want to dedicate the town book to for 2024.
4. Interim Town Manager Stratton would like to hire Tammy Donovan as the Deputy Clerk and Assistant Librarian. Sherri Calhoun motions to hire Tammy Donovan as the Deputy Clerk and Assistant Librarian. Chris Bessey seconded. No discussion. Motion Carried.

VIII. Council Items:

Gayle Burby has had some Scapan residents complain about the Town Office hours. Asking if it could be open later. The town office was open until 5:30 three nights a week and the clerks never saw any traffic after 4:30. The town council decided to leave the Town Office hours the same. Monday – Thursday 7:30 – 4:30.

Chris Bessey made a suggestion to make “Turn on the Camera” first on the agenda so it would be easier to remember to turn the camera on.

Tyler Michaud invited everyone to the Grass Drags coming up this weekend.

4. Adjournment: Sherri Calhoun motioned to adjourn the meeting, Chris Bessey Seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Jimmo

Recording Secretary



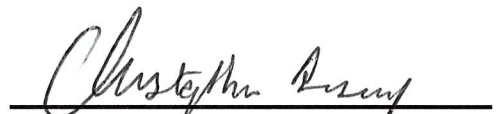
Tyler Michaud, Chairman



Gerard Raymond



Sherri Calhoun



Christopher Bessey

Gayle Burby

Gayle Burby