

Town of Ashland
Regular Town Council Meeting
October 14, 2025

Present: Chairman Tyler Michaud, Sherri Calhoun, James Risner, Gerard Raymond, and Town Manager Alicia Burby.

Absent: Christopher Bessey

- 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 September 9, 2025, Regular Town Council Meeting. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve September 9, 2025, Regular Town Council Minutes. James Risner seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.
 2. Review, approve, and sign minutes from October 8, 2025, Special Town Meeting. Table until November Council Meeting to have enough council members to vote. James Risner and Gerard Raymond were not at the Meeting so they cannot vote.
 3. Review, approve and sign 2025 Treasurer Warrants 36V, 36P, 37V, 37P, 38V, 38P, 39V, 39P, 40V and 40P. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve the noted warrants. James Risner seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

- IV. **New Business**
 1. Review and sign Applications for Abatement for Account 769 & Supplemental Tax Bill for Account # 657. Assessor incorrectly assessed a scale house for Tax Years 2022, 2023, and 2024. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve the abatement request for Account # 769 and the Supplement Tax Bill for account # 657. James Risner seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.
 2. Review and approve Registrar of Voters and Election/Ballot Clerks- In a recent election training it was brought to the town's attention that the council is supposed to approve the Registrar of Voters every two even years and the Election/ Ballot Clerks every two odd years. Since this has not been done in the past, they advised that we approve both now to be compliant. The Council will approve the Registrar of Voters again at the December meeting for the year 2026. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve Registrar of Voters and Election/Ballot Clerks as presented. James Risner seconded. No discussion. motion passed.

- V. **Old Business:**
 1. Library Community Advisory Panel Final Report- Chair of the Library Community Advisory Panel, Kevin Bushey spoke on the panel's final report and what the panel recommends. The four models the panel reviewed were 1. The Current Subsidies Model. 2. Discounted Subsidies Model. 3. Municipal/ Advisory Board with IRS non- profit 501(c)3 status for tax-

deductible donations. 4. Municipal transfer to 501(c)3. The panel recommends #3 as the best choice moving forward. The new entity should be involved with the budget development, long-term goals, managing donations and advising staff. Staff actions will still be managed by the municipality. The board should also assist staff with recruiting and supporting volunteers to the library. Policies should also be in place for non-residents to use the library. James Risner thanked the panel for doing this report, for doing it in such a short period of time and for making a recommendation. It's a good starting point. Sherri Calhoun said she seconded what James Risner said. Chair Tyler Michaud said he also recommends 3 because it helps our taxpayers. Town Manager Alicia Burby agrees with the panel's recommendation. James Risner Asked Town Manager Alicia Burby to bring back something to the council in a future meeting to move forward to establish a 501(c)3 for The Gladys J. Craig Memorial Library; they can set up a special meeting if need be.

2. Public Works Department Update- Public Works Director Jeff Jandreau provided an update from the Public Works Department. Jeff said there is lots of work to do. Roads aren't the best, and everyone wants their road fixed. So, Public Works need to figure things out. A lot of culverts are bad. They fixed a culvert on Sheridan Road by the Mclellan's house. The culvert by the Public Works shop is in rough shape but they can save that to fix next spring/summer. The loader needs work. It needs pins and bushings it's \$6,300.00 for just the parts. Pickup is not in great shape. Found a 2016 one ton with a 9-foot v plow with 29,000 miles for \$35,000.00. With the \$30,000.00 which has already been approved Jeff said he would need another \$5000.00 to get it. Jeff also said the grader needs a lot of work. The backhoe is great, but they need a ditching bucket to use with it. They have worked on Wrightville Rd a little bit, but it still has lots of potholes. The S turn on Wrightville needs work with all the logging going on. Questions about plowing a couple of roads off The Wrightville Rd. One road just has seasonal camps so it shouldn't need to be plowed. The other one has a resident that lives on it year-round. James Risner said if it is a town road they must clear it. But they could close the road in the winter. Manager Burby is working with legal to determine if the town is obligated to clear additional roads that are not currently maintained by the town. Gerard Raymond asked if the school bus goes down there and he was told it does not. Jeff said the goal is to try to get as much shoulder work done on Wrightville Rd. But the little ditching they did on it took four days. Jeff also said he wants to fix the sides of the roads so they can fix the roads next. James Risner said that all roads are equal, but the problem is the budget. James also told Jeff Jandreau that he is doing a great job in the short amount of time he has been here. He also said to meet with the manager on the equipment and roads what is more critical and what the town can afford with the resources we have. Manager Alicia Burby recommends the council approve the additional \$ 5,000.00 from the New Equipment Reserve to purchase the truck for The Highway Department. Sherri Calhoun made a motion for an additional \$5,000.00 to add to the current \$30,000.00 to purchase the truck. James Risner seconded. No Comments. Motion passed.

VI. **Manager's Report:**

1. Have the August Financials and just got the September ones this morning.

2. Autotronics fixed an oil leak on the old ambulance that will now be the rescue vehicle. They will send an invoice.
3. Police updated on calls they went on- In August they went on 211 calls and in September they went on 203 calls.
4. Maine State Revenue 2026 State Evaluation is \$115,100,000.
5. The Ashland Snowmobile club applied for annual grant for 108,184.50
6. MMA Convention lasted 2 days. They had 5 seminars and Manager Alicia Burby attended 4. A side project is to get youth involved. Junior Council Model.
7. Last Council meeting Resident Doug Chasse asked about Digital Maps. Town Manager Alicia Burby is getting quotes.

VII. **Council items:**

Chair Tyler Michaud said his daughter Ellie Michaud reached her goal for the Town Christmas lights. The lights have been ordered. It was brought up that Elli should turn the lights on at the Christmas Tree lighting ceremony when the Christmas Tree lights are turned on. He also said maybe the old lights could be sold.

Sherry Calhoun said the council needs to write Ellie Michaud a Thank You letter and get her a certificate.

VIII. **Public comments:**

Resident Doug Chasse asked if businesses could get a receipt for their donations for the Christmas lights.

Resident Paula Gajewski of Masardis Rd asked Kevin Bushey what the difference was between 3 and 4 on the models the Library Community Advisory Panel were choosing from. Kevin replied #3 The town will still own the building and staff. # 4 It is a straight nonprofit.

Resident James Laveway asked what happened to the town getting the school truck? He was told the school got back to the town and they are keeping it.

IX. **Old Business:**

Executive Session to discuss personnel issue per Maine State Law Title (1M.R.S.A. Section 405-6A) Sherry Calhoun motioned to go into Executive Session. James Risner seconded. Motion passed. Executive Session started at 7:16 PM

Sherry Calhoun made a motion to end the Executive Session. James Risner seconded. Motion passed. Executive Session ended at 7:37 PM.

- X. **Adjournment:** Sherry Calhoun motioned to adjourn the meeting; James Risner seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 PM.

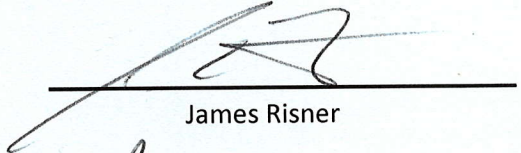
Respectfully submitted,



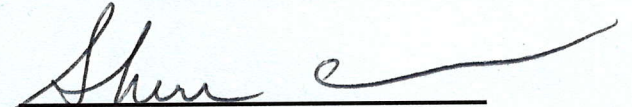
Susan Jimmo
Recording Secretary



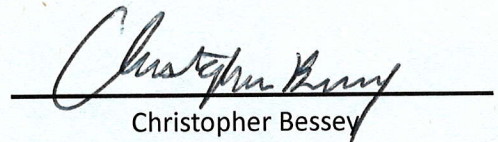
Tyler Michaud, Chairman



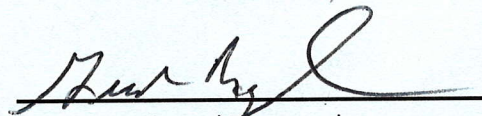
James Risner



Sherri Calhoun



Christopher Bessey



Gerard Raymond