

Town of Ashland
Regular Town Council Meeting
November 10, 2025

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

Absent: None

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

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

- III. **Consent items:**
 1. Review, approve, and sign minutes from October 14, 2025, Regular Town Council Meeting. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve October 14, 2025, Regular Town Council Minutes; James Risner seconded. No discussion. Motion carried. Christopher Bessey abstained because he did not attend.
 2. Review, approve, and sign minutes from October 8, 2025, Special Town Meeting. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve October 8, 2025, Special Town Council Minutes; Christopher Bessey seconded. Motion Passed. James Risner and Gerard Raymond abstained because they did not attend.
 3. Review, approve, and sign 2025 Treasurer Warrants 41V, 41P, 42V, 42P, 43V, 43P, 44V, and 44P. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve the noted warrants; Christopher Bessey seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

- IV. **New Business**
 1. Review and sign Applications for Abatement for Account #1218 for a Frame Garage wrongly assessed and Account #1002 for buildings that were removed in 2024. Sherri Calhoun motioned to approve the noted abatements # 1218 and #1002; Christopher Bessey seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.
 2. Scheduling 2026 Budget Workshop. After some discussion on dates, the Council and Manager Burby decided to have the 2026 Budget Workshop meeting with the Budget Committee on Wednesday December 3 at 6 P.M. The meeting will be at the Town office. The Planning Board also has a meeting that same night and they will meet at the Rec instead of the Town Office.

- V. **Old Business:** No Old Business

- VI. **Manager's Report:**
 1. Maine Revenue Service Property Tax Division Proposed 2026 State Valuation for the Town of Ashland of \$115,100,000 which represents an increase of \$10,250,000 from last year.
 2. SHAPE (Shape and Health Award for Public Employee) came on 10/29/2025; they found a few problems that were here prior to 2022. Some items may take up to 60 days to fix. The

town may have a 1 to 2 year conditional renewal. Town Manager and department heads are actively working to resolve issues found.

3. Digital Mapping Pricing- Price to digitize all town maps is \$11,500; \$6,950 to get site up and running and a \$3,000 annual hosting fee. Sherri Calhoun asked if there were any grants that could help. Town Manager Burby said she would check into it. James Risner asked if it is beneficial to the town for that price. Manager Burby said anyone could go online and look at the maps. It will be tabled until the workshop with the Budget Committee.
4. Historical Society is wondering who is paying for electricity for the Street lights at the Veterans Memorial and the light in the Historical Society parking lot. The Town of Ashland is not being billed for them. The light in the parking lot of the Historical Society is shut off right now and the light at the Veterans Memorial is sometimes on and sometimes off. Years ago, there was a gentleman's handshake for the town to pay for electricity at the Veterans memorial. Chairman Michaud said maybe the town could split the cost with The Historical Society but first would like to see what the cost is.
5. The 3 town vehicles that were auctioned off have been sold and picked up. The town has netted \$3,150 for the Chevy Tahoe, \$900 for the Rec Bus, and \$1,890, for the 07 Silverado. Funds will be applied back to the respective department budget.
6. Roxanne Tardie has accepted the Library Director position at The Gladys J Craig Memorial Library. She will be in an administrative capacity. Staffing the Library with volunteers and Tammy Donovan. Roxanne Tardie may be able to start an Inter Library Loan Program so the school library and the town library can share books. James Risner was wondering how much money could be saved by sharing books.
7. The Christmas lights that Ellie Michaud had fundraised for are all in. Ellie raised \$11,510.10. The Town would like to have Ellie light the lights on November 29, 2025, at 6:00 P.M. when the Fire Department has their tree lighting ceremony. The Town will advertise old lights for sale by donation. All funds raised will be held in account for future repairs on new lights them
8. The Aroostook Valley Dump had a budget meeting and they will have a 9% increase in their budget.

VII. **Council items:**
No Council Items

VIII. **Public comments:**
No Public Comments

IX. **Adjournment:** Sherri Calhoun motioned to adjourn the meeting; James Risner seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan Jimmo
Recording Secretary

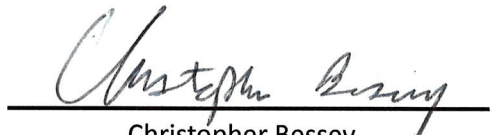


Tyler Michaud, Chairman

James Risner



Sherri Calhoun



Christopher Bessey



Gerard Raymond