

Town of Ashland
Regular Town Council Meeting

April 9, 2024

Present: Chairman Tyler Michaud, Sherri Calhoun, Christopher Bessey, Gerard Raymond, Gayle Burby, and Manager Cyr Martin.

Absent: None

- I. **Call meeting to order:** The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Michaud.

- II. **Public comments:** Residents of Portage, Garfield and Masardis has concerns with the amount of Subsidies each town is required to pay for the Ambulance, Rec Department and Library. They would like to pick and choose which services they want and not to have them in an all or nothing bundle. They also wanted to be able to see exactly how the subsidy money is allocated for each budget category, and where any unexpended balances are closed to at the end of Ashland's Fiscal year. Portage Town Manager, Corrine Routhier, did an overview of the meeting the towns had on 4/8 and expressed their concerns. After lots of discussions back and forth, Council Tom Raymond made a motion to let the communities pick and choose which services they wanted, not have the services bundled. Sherri Calhoun seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carried. The towns will form a joint committee with a couple of representatives from each town to attend to discuss the subsidies. First meeting to be on April 24 at 6:30.

- III. **Consent items:**
 1. Review, approve and sign minutes from the March 12,2024 Regular Council Meeting and March 19, 2024, Organizational Council Meeting. A motion was made by Sherri Calhoun to sign the minutes for the March 12,2024 Regular Town Council Meeting and the March 19, 2024, Organizational Council Meeting, seconded by Christopher Bessey, No discussion. Motion carried.
 2. Review, approve and sign treasurer warrants #10V, #10P, #11V, #11P, #12V, 12P, #13V, and #13P. 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, discuss and vote on new appointments that have expired on Ashland Committees. Manager Martin informed the council that there is an opening on the Cemetery Committee due to James Risner stepping down because he doesn't have enough time to do it. Sherri Calhoun motioned to accept the appointed committee members on the Ashland Committees. Chris Bessey seconded. No discussion. Motion carried.
 2. Discuss and Review purchasing new cameras and card system due to old system failing. Manager Martin explained that the key system is not working at the rec dept and that the whole system needed an upgrade. New Cameras will be added in the police dept and the

conference room. The camera in the conference room will be able to record and have volume so the town meetings can be recorded and played for the residents to watch. Manager Martin could only get one quote from Third Eye. He called Wade from Aroostook Tech to get a quote but never heard from him. The council wants Manager Martin to get another quote from Aroostook Tech. Council Raymond will call Wade from Aroostook Tech to get a quote from them. Sherri Calhoun made a motion to wait until they get a second quote from Aroostook Tech before deciding. Tom Raymond seconded. Motion passed.

3. Discuss, review and vote on new Ashland Town Zoning Ordinances which have been updated to include new requirements from Maine State ID law 2003 which includes the new Solar Ordinance. Sherri made a motion to leave the Solar Moratorium in place until the town votes on and approves the new zoning ordinance. Chris Bessey seconded it, No discussion. Motion passed.

V. Old Business:

1. Discuss Subsidies on how we will allow them to vote on a separate departmental subsidy. Discussion was held during public comments.

VI. Manager's Report:

Manager Martin had no Manager's report.

VII. Council items:

1. Council Raymond made a motion to change the time of the Town Council Meetings to start at 6:30 instead of 5:30. Gayle Burby Seconded. Sherri opposed. Motion passed.

VIII. Adjournment: Sherri Calhoun motioned to adjourn the meeting, Chris Bessey Seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 6:45.

Respectfully submitted,


Susan Jimmo

Recording Secretary

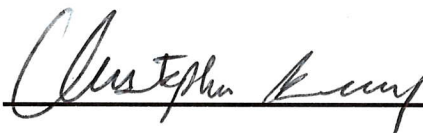


Tyler Michaud, Chairman

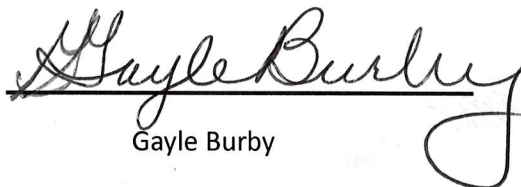


Gerard Raymond

Sherri Calhoun



Christopher Bessey



Gayle Burby