

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
TUESDAY OCTOBER 7, 2013
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY
7 PM**

MINUTES

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order at 7PM with a roll call. Normand DeWolfe, Phil Preston, Jeanette I. Stewart present.

Others Present: TA Paul Branscombe, Pat Crowell, and members of the Public.

APPROVALS

Minutes of September 3: Preston moved to approve as written. DeWolfe with a minor grammatical error. Stewart seconded. All in favor.

Minutes of September 11: DeWolfe moved to approve. Stewart with corrections. Preston Disagreed. DeWolfe motioned to table these minutes. Stewart seconded. All in favor.

Minutes of September 24: DeWolfe moved to approve as written. Preston seconded. All in favor.

Minutes of September 27: Stewart moved to approve as written. Preston seconded. All in favor.

Signing of the Manifests: TA Branscombe read the total for Accounts Payable, Welfare, and the Payroll as the Selectmen signed the manifests. The totals are: \$162,326.23 for Accounts Payable, \$840.00 for Welfare, and \$10,954.68 for Payroll. DeWolfe stated that he was in earlier and reviewed the folders.

Signature File: The Chairman said that only her signature was required on an abatement and the other Selectmen were OK with that.

OLD BUSINESS

Budget Revisions - 1) Conservation Commission will not have to do a Warrant Article, they have included an increase in their budget. 2) TA Branscombe would like to eliminate the lights for the town office from the budget. Butch Smith, Electrical Inspector, advised Branscombe that they weren't needed. Preston had some questions regarding the size of the bulbs and would like to revisit this issue before excluding it from the budget. Branscombe will double check with Butch and get back to the Board regarding this issue.

NEW BUSINESS

1) Stewart said that the HEAL Committee should be a town committee. Fran Newton agreed. Stewart motioned that the HEAL Committee will be a town committee. DeWolfe seconded. All in favor.

2) Welfare Guidelines – Branscombe explained that the Town’s current guidelines have not been updated since 2007. He recommends that the Town increase the allowance for rent and food. All other terms and conditions would remain the same. Preston had a few questions. DeWolfe moved to accept the proposal to increase the amount for rent to \$900 and food to \$50 for each adult in the household and \$40 for each child. Preston seconded. All in favor.

TA REPORT - The Town Administrator’s Report is part of these minutes.

SELECTBOARD ITEMS

The Waldhausen Property on Leavitt Hill Road needs to go before the zoning Board to restore the grandfather clause. The Building Inspector said they have a well and septic system on the property. It isn’t something that the Select Board has anything to do with it. The Town Administrator will email the Waldhausens.

Fran Newton said that the Community Garden is applying for a grant through Meredith Village Savings Bank. She also thanked Paul Branscombe for all his hard work with the HEAL project.

Some discussion followed regarding the Town Bulletin which has been discontinued. The Town Administrator will still send out InfoBlasts, which you do not have to sign up for.

There being no further business, Chairman Stewart motioned to adjourn at 7:42 PM. Phil Preston seconded. All in favor.

NEXT MEETING: October 16, 2013 at the Town Office at 8:30 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Crowell
10-11-13