

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2013
ASHLAND TOWN OFFICE
8:30 AM**

MINUTES

Chairman Stewart called the meeting to order with a roll call at 8:30 AM. Phil Preston, Normand DeWolfe, Jeanette I Stewart all present.

Others present: TA Paul Branscombe, Pat Crowell, Eli & Mardean Badger, Tim Paquette

Signing the Manifests: TA Branscombe read the total for Accounts Payable, Welfare, and the Payroll as the Selectmen signed the manifests. DeWolfe stated that he was in earlier and reviewed and signed the manifests. He asked some questions about the bill from Town of Plymouth Dispatch and the invoice and credit from Grainger. Preston had questions regarding the bill from MRI and the purchase order for the welder.

Signature File: There were three purchase orders from the Public Works Dept. which Tim Paquette was here to address. There was a purchase order for the welder and two days usage of Don Latulippe's excavator and materials to fix the culvert on North Ashland Road. Paquette explained what needed to be done.

OLD BUSINESS

Welfare Guidelines - TA Branscombe asked that the new guidelines for Welfare be signed. These guidelines were explained at the Selectmen's meeting last week.

July 4th Committee – Chairman Stewart explained that the committee has decided not to be a town committee but wants the Town to sign the various contracts and they will give us the money for the fireworks, etc. The Town's lawyer and insurance carrier have advised the Town not to sign the contracts. Preston made a motion to accept the proposal submitted by the committee. DeWolfe seconded. The Chairman called for a vote: Preston & DeWolfe yeah, Stewart, nay. She then asked for discussion. Preston & DeWolfe said that the discussion should be before the final vote. She disagreed. Chairman Stewart did not agree with the vote because the Town's lawyer and insurance carrier said that the town should not sign the contracts and take on the liability. DeWolfe then asked if the statement from the committee was given to the lawyer. Stewart replied that she read the statement over the phone to the attorney. Preston stated that the town has to accept the liability or there will be no 4th of July festivities in the Town of Ashland. Chairman Stewart stated that the 4th of July is not a responsibility of the Selectmen or the town. DeWolfe stated that he would be responsible for the money getting deposited to the

Town. DeWolfe motioned that the money be received prior to signing the contracts. Stewart seconded. All in favor.

150 Anniversary Committee – TA Branscombe stated that the committee has cancelled their meeting and rescheduled for another date.

Memorial Park – Liz Stevens would like to be on the committee. Preston said that there is a vacancy. Preston moved to appoint Liz Stevens to the committee. Stewart seconded. All in favor.

DeWolfe asked about the minutes of September 11, 2013 that were tabled at the last meeting. The Board asked that the clerk listen to the tape of that meeting and report back.

NEW BUSINESS

Kinney – 29 School Street – TA Branscombe explained the situation. The Kinney's say that they knew nothing about the proposed community garden. Susan Macloud had explained to them that the abutters were notified as a courtesy only. Their concern is that their septic system will not be affected. The Kinney's want a 100% guarantee. They are encroaching on town land and will move their shed. Chairman Stewart said that they need to talk with the Water & Sewer Dept. Preston would like the Water & Sewer Dept. contact the Kinneys. Mrs. Kinney will attend tonight's meeting. The Chairman asked that Mr. Branscombe contact Fran Newton to let her know that this committee needs to take minutes at all their meetings since it is a town committee.

Finance Officer – The Chairman said we should wait until the end of the month to schedule any interviews. The Board asked Mr. Branscombe to set up an interview with them and Brenda Paquette on Wednesday, October 23, 2013.

Chief Randall came in and said that he needs to discuss his contract with the Selectmen soon.

Welfare Director – Some discussion regarding case management with Kathy Bentwood of the Bridge House. DeWolfe said that he would like to keep welfare here in Ashland, not farming it out to Plymouth. The Ashland Job Application will go on the website if it's not.

There being no further business Chairman Stewart motioned to adjourn at 9:28 AM. Preston seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Crowell
10-18-13