

ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
July 21, 2014

Call to Order

Chairman DeWolfe called the work session to order at 7 PM.

Roll Call

Present – Jeanette I. Stewart, Philip Preston, Steven Felton, Frances Newton, Norman DeWolfe

Others Present

Clerk Patricia Tucker, members of the public

Old Business

- **Concerned Citizens Log** – no new updates; consensus was that all concerns addressed at a meeting that require a follow-up should be added to the list; Salvoni issue should have statement that “PWD looking at steps to address issue”
- **Ashland Properties Update** – town has not taken this by deed; in process of having our insurance carrier give town a quote for liability insurance
- **Code of Ethics** – policy rewritten by Fran Newton to update 1986 document; Preston and Stewart will see if they can amend it to make it a one page document; **action to have this for next meeting**
- **Smith Hill Road** – nothing new for resolution of issues at the lower end of this road; Stewart expresses concerns regarding the age of the leach field in question; did the town do something wrong; what about other properties in town that have water draining onto them; need engineer [no money in budget for this]; more estimates were asked for yet the one that was given have already been released; feels that Selectman Newton should step down when this item is discussed [resident on road, friend of property owner with the issue] *Response from Selectmen Newton was that she would be objective and if the entire road were to be discussed she would step down.*
- **July 4 Celebration/Atlas Fireworks** – DeWolfe stated that in all the celebration was a success; the committee took in the same amount that was spent; one burn incident is being addressed with our insurance carrier; DeWolfe was informed that the town inventory of fireworks was shorted; Action – TA Branscombe to follow up on this issue
- **CF Investments** – property located on North Ashland Road is now owned by the town [taken by tax collector deed]; notification to be made to former owner; Board needs to make decision about when and if they want to sell the property

- **Outdated/Repealed Ordinances\_** – following review the Curfew, Discharge of Weapons/Fireworks, Skateboarding will be review by the Police Department and will be forward suggestion for action; Disorderly Action Ordinance to be reviewed by the Board for action at next meeting. Note: the “Land Use Ordinance review committee” will be meeting to review land use ordinances and regulations.

### **New Business**

- **Ashland Economic Development Committee/website** – new pages on the website are a \$75 one time set up charge; Mardean Badger will see about changing the “What to do in Ashland” page to be used by the AEDC. Pages for the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary and the AEDC should be added to the 2015 budget.
- **Fire Department Evaluation Forms** – Chief Heath presented a form that he would like to use; Board reviewed and made suggestion [add explanations after comments]
- **Campground Trailer Sale\_** – set for opening of bids on August 8, 2014
- **Conservation Commission Appointment** - motion to appoint Harold Lamos [expiration 4/30/17] – Preston, second Newton, no discussion; vote 5-0 in favor

### **Selectboard Items**

- **Mainstay Technologies\_** – Felton and Branscombe met with this IT firm; more companies to be interviewed; will compare “apples” to “apples” when interview process is completed
- **Priority Table** – no action by Board
- **Ashland Economic Development Committee** – planning to have public meeting with businesses; still in need of members
- **Timeline for 2015 Budget Preparation** – discussed the need to be sooner than later – action to have TA Branscombe set up timeline for departments
- **Week of July 24 Expenditure** – Payroll \$19916.84; AP \$106928.01
- **Boards and Committees Meeting Calendar** – DeWolfe will put together a calendar
- **Review Financials** - following discussion – board action will be to email TA Branscombe with questions and concerns for him to do a follow-up; concern was expressed as to why Finance Director Paquette suggested that the Library Trustees have a line in their budget for costs of audit, workers compensation and property liability

Motion to enter non public at 8:43 PM per 91-A III, II a – compensation – Dewolfe; second Stewart; roll call – Preston- yes; Stewart – yes; Felton – yes; Newton- yes; Dewolfe – yes

Taken by Patricia Tucker

*Others in attendance – Fire Chief Stephen Heath. Discussion was about request from Chief Heath to go from 29 to 32 hours a week.*

*Motion to exit non public at 8:58 PM – Stewart; second – DeWolfe. 5-0 in favor.*

Reentered public meeting -

*Chairman DeWolfe announced that no decisions were made in non public*

*Motion to grant Steve Heath's request to go up to 32 hours per week with the stipulation that he would not be eligible for any benefits – Stewart; second – Newton; 5-0 in favor*

*Minutes of non public taken by Normand DeWolfe*

*Motion to adjourn meeting at 9:03 PM – Newton; second – Stewart; vote 5-0 in favor.*