

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY AUGUST 4, 2014
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY
7:00 PM**

MINUTES

Chairman DeWolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 with a roll call. Steve Felton, Jeanette Stewart, Fran Newton, Phil Preston, Norm DeWolfe present.

Others Present: Pat Crowell and members of the Public.

The Chairman stated that he had received some correspondence after the agenda had been posted:

- Letter from the Plymouth Water & Sewer
- Error in the Camper bid
- September 26 is the Legislative Policy Conference
- August 7 is visit from PRIMEX to tour town-owned facilities

APPROVALS

Minutes of July 7: Newton moved to approve as amended. Felton seconded. Stewart abstained. All in favor 4-0

Minutes of July 21: Preston moved to approve as written. DeWolfe seconded. All in favor 5-0

Minutes of July 30: Preston had a question about the motion regarding the white rocks on Owl Brook Road. Stewart explained. Felton moved to approve as written. Newton seconded. All in favor 5-0

-Preston wants to revise the letter to be sent to Fred Salvoni. Jamie Lyford will also get a letter answering his email. After some discussion the Board agreed to send revised letter to Salvoni and send letter to Lyford.

Signature File: Invoice from Emery & Garrett

OLD BUSINESS

a) Utility Partners – Will wait for some more factual information. TA Branscombe will follow-up.

b) IT Proposal – Felton explained that more work needs to be done. Needs to be “apples to apples”.

c) Ashland Properties – If the town added this property to its insurance it would probably be about \$962 more per year. Its actual cash value not replacement cost. After some discussion it was decided that the town will have letter delivered to the owner, Scott Heath.

d) Concerned Citizen Log - No update.

e) Code of Ethics – Preston wanted to revise the document so that it could be only one page. After some discussion the Board decided that it will discuss this at the worksession.

f) Smith Hill Road – DeWolfe visited when it was down pouring last week. Newton, who lives on Smith Hill Road said that the Fucariles had used sand bags to divert the water. Preston asked if this situation was the town’s responsibility. DeWolfe said it was not, but asked if there was an alternative. He asked Tim Paquette if there was a less costly fix. A culvert would be the homeowner’s responsibility. Stewart and Felton said that the Board should make a decision. Newton will talk with the Fucarile’s. Paquette said that he recommends not doing anything. We didn’t create the problem.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Budget Prep Timeline and meeting schedule** – Need to ask TA Branscombe for calendar.
- b) PSU Intern** – The Board decided that the decision will be up to the staff in the town office.
- c) Union Strategy Meeting** – In process of negotiations.
- d) HEAL CNHBC Grant Award**– Newton said that the Bike-Pedestrian Committee will be receiving a grant of \$1500 thanks to Joe Mazzone and the HEAL Bide-Ped Committee.

Selectboard Items

Camper Bids – DeWolfe said that there was error in the listing of the camper. The camper was actually a 2006 Hyline not a 2001 Coachman. When the bids are opened, the bidders will be notified and it will be re-advertised.

Stewart asked about the money in the Finance Officers line. She is supposed to be doing only 20 hours a week. The Board will monitor her hours.

Felton is currently an alternate for the budget committee. He is also on the CIP and Economic Development committee and would like to step down from the Budget Committee. Stewart moved to appoint Newton as Budget Committee Alternate. DeWolfe seconded. All in favor.

Priorities – Felton would like the Board to track the projects.

Public Comments

Bobbi Hoerter asked about why the financials have not been announced at the last few meetings. DeWolfe said that it was an oversight and would start doing that again.

Tim Paquette had a request from a resident on Cross Road to post a new speed limit sign of 25 MPH. He discussed it with Chief Randall. The Board agreed to have Paquette put a new sign on Cross Road.

Kendall L. Hughes asked about the brush on Thompson Street. Paquette said that the bamboo has been cut and hauled off. The brush in front of Dion’s house has been cut today and hauled off. Mr. Hughes asked about the status of the snow plow/lawn mower, was it damaged? Paquette said no. Some question about maybe it was the tractor mower that was damaged. Paquette said that the mower hit a rock and it has been fixed. DeWolfe mentioned that there were weeds in the sidewalk. Mr. Hughes mentioned the sign in front of Jackman’s house. Paquette said that had been taken care of. He asked how far the sidewalk went in front of Dion’s house. Paquette said that it doesn’t go to Cottage Street.

There being no further business, Newton moved to adjourn at 8:10 PM Felton seconded. All in favor 5-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Crowell
8-8-14