

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY OCTOBER 6, 2014
ASHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA
7:00 pm**

Chairman Normand DeWolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with a roll call. Jeanette I Stewart, Steve Felton, Fran Newton, Normand DeWolfe, and Philip Preston all present. The Chairman also acknowledged the Budget Committee and CIP Committee.

Others Present: Paul Branscombe and Pat Crowell

David Toth of the CIP Committee presented the report which addresses the capital improvements needed by each town department, an analysis of different funding options, and makes recommendations based on cost considerations.

Jamie Lyford was sworn in as a Budget Committee member by Chairman DeWolfe.

MINUTES

September 2, 2014 – Newton moved to approve as corrected. DeWolfe seconded. All in favor

September 8, 2014 – Stewart moved to approve as written. Preston seconded. All in favor

September 11, 2014 – Stewart moved to approve as written. Felton seconded. All in favor

September 12, 2014 – Newton moved to approve as corrected. Felton seconded. All in favor

September 15, 2015 (evening meeting) – Felton moved to approve as written. DeWolfe seconded. All in favor

September 19, 2014 – Felton moved to approve as written. Newton seconded. All in favor

September 25, 2014 – Felton moved to approve as written. Newton seconded. All in favor

NOTE: Minutes from the morning meeting of September 15, 2014 will be discussed at the worksession.

SIGNATURE FILE

Newton moved to sign the Warrant for voting on November 4, 2014. Stewart seconded. All in favor.

The Board sign two copies which will be posted tomorrow.

The Board also signed a new hire for the Fire Department.

OLD BUSINESS

- a) Updated Priority Table – Felton asked for updates on when Utility Partners will be in Ashland. Branscombe said that he had not heard when they will be coming again. He asked about the letter that was sent via the Sheriff's Office regarding the Mill Properties. Branscombe will follow up with that because there was a thirty day deadline. Newton was asked about the walk through with Jeannie Forrester. She said that Forrester had some suggestions and mentioned a design charrette. Felton asked about a CDBG grant for the Town Hall. Branscombe has been in touch with Taylor Caswell and said that there is a March 2015 deadline.
- b) Moo Corners/Owl Brook Road Bridge – The Chairman mentioned that at the worksession in September the Board heard that the bridge in question needed to be repaired/replaced, and that it was an emergency. At that meeting the Board voted to have Arnold Graton do the work. After that, another contractor expressed an interest in doing the work. The State is involved and has inspected the bridge and has since closed it. Tim Paquette has met with the engineer

and the bridge does need to be replaced. The daughter and son of the owners of the property, the Conways, are in the audience and stated that they are at the property every weekend and would appreciate that the bridge be fixed as soon as possible so that they can have heating oil delivered. After more discussion, Stewart motioned to hire Arnold Graton to do the work for \$57,300. DeWolfe seconded. All in favor. The Board gave permission to Paquette to contact Arnold Graton to get started on the construction. Branscombe will send letter to Stanley Graton of 3G Construction who also sent an estimate.

NEW BUSINESS

- a) Accept Water & Sewer Truck – The Water & Sewer Commissioners voted to give a 2007 pick-up truck to the town. Newton moved to accept the truck to be used as a town vehicle that will be used by any department as needed. DeWolfe seconded. All in favor. Eli Badger said that the truck has been registered and inspected and has about 6500 miles. The Chairman said that the truck will be kept at the DPW garage.
- b) TAC Scenic Byway Ashland Representative – DeWolfe said that a representative from Ashland is needed. Newton will be going to the first meeting on Wednesday in Meredith. If no one else wanted the volunteer position, DeWolfe would volunteer.
- c) Lakes Region Planning Commission Ashland Representative – Newton moved to appoint Cheryl Cox as the Ashland Representative. Stewart seconded. All in favor
- d) Sherrie Downing – Ms. Downing showed the Christmas decoration that have been donated to be raffled. The drawing will take place on December 6th, Christmas Night in Ashland”. If you would like a ticket please call her at 968-3808 or come into the shop, “Hylites” on Main Street in Ashland.

SELECTBOARD ITEMS

Stewart brought up the subject of the letter to the town office about taking time off and not having coverage at the town hall. She stressed that the town office should be open and that the Board needs to know when it won't be. Preston said that Branscombe should handle and doesn't feel that this is a Selectboard item. Stewart motioned to send letter to the town office regarding time off. Newton seconded. Four in favor, Preston opposed.

Newton said that there is a Code Enforcement Complaint form which she has borrowed from another town. Branscombe mentioned that the Town Seal should be put on it. It should also have the town's address and phone number on it. Preston didn't care for the title, he said that it seems to refer to the Building Inspector. After some discussion, Newton said that the form would be on the website and thanked Eli Badger for making the form a fill-in and adding the seal, address and phone number. Newton also said that there needs to be a notification system so that no one is blindsided.

Branscombe read his Town Administrator's report for the month of September.

Finalizing Revised Budget –

Public Works Dept - The Chairman said that all lines in the budget have been updated except for a few. The first line is the Public Works Department digital radios. He asked Paquette to explain what he needs in the 2015 budget. Paquette mentioned that he can scale back on the 9 mobiles, one base, and two mobile radios that he needs. He has the remainder of money in the Safety Committees line and also has

\$1000 from Emergency Management for the radios. He mentioned that he is working on a grant for four radios and should know within the next couple of weeks about that. Worst case is 2 radios. To budget for next year the Board recommended \$14000.

Conservation Commission – Harold Lamos who is on the Conservation Commission spoke about what the money that has been requested is for. The Board decided to approve the \$3000 that the Commission requested.

Public Works Dept. – On Page 22 the total is now \$154,985. It was miscalculated.

Tax Collector/Town Clerk – The Board requested a separate line in each budget so that a longevity stipend could be added. It was agreed that the stipend would be 3% to equal \$477 in each line.

Cemetery Trustees Line - \$100 has been added to that line.

Stewart motioned to accept the budget as amended and recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Newton seconded. All in favor. The total of the budget is \$2,609,714. Brenda Paquette, finance, will update and send to the Budget Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jamie Lyford had a question about an elected officials position which regard to what the procedure is regarding paying a new person that is elected to that position. He also asked that the Christmas lights come down before July.

Harold Lamos said that there should be some way to establish priority on the new Code Enforcement form. The Fire Chief said that there is a Life Safety 101 Report form.

Stewart motioned to go into **Non-Public** pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II(c) at 9:30 pm. DeWolfe seconded. Roll Call: Steve Felton yes, Fran Newton yes, Normand DeWolfe yes, Jeanette Stewart yes, Phil Preston yes. The Board took a two minute break.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Crowell
10-7-14