

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN WORKSESSION MINUTES**  
**MONDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2014**  
**ASHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY**  
**7:00 pm**

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

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

The Chairman reported that the scheduled meeting with Ernie Paquette will be delayed until later in the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Update of meeting with Scott Heath – DeWolfe stated that he and Branscombe had a meeting with Scott Heath and John Glidden last week. Mr. Heath will not sign an agreement to board up the Mill property and will not pay for anything to do with the Mill. After some discussion, the Selectmen decided to get an estimate to board up the property.

Budget items for BOS vote – The Board discussed the changes in the ambulance line and the contract services for the Fire Dept. Branscombe explained that the price for the lights has changed from \$5633 to \$5653. Stewart motioned to change the price to \$5653. Newton seconded. All in favor.

Priority Table – Newton mentioned that there were a few “tweaks”. She talked about the TAP grant. She said that we are not out of it yet. She said that it would be better to have a representative from Ashland on the LRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAP) and that Eli Badger would like to be that representative. Newton moved to appoint Eli Badger to the LRPC TAP to represent Ashland. Felton seconded. All in favor. Moo Corner Bridge and the lighting in the town buildings was also discussed. Branscombe said that the lighting will be started next Monday and Tuesday and continued the first week in December. In regard to Utility Partners, Felton spoke with Dave Circle and we should hear something soon.

Citizen Log – Newton spoke about 221 Thompson St. She will check with Tim Paquette to see if he had checked out to see if the fence is in the right of way. Branscombe will follow up with Paquette and write a letter to the owners.

Personnel Policy – update from Committee – DeWolfe said that according to the Personnel Policy Committee minutes of November 7<sup>th</sup>, the committee did not approve (vote was 8-0) that the current retirees should pay 10% towards their health insurance. DeWolfe asked for a motion to rescind the motion made on 10/20/14. Felton moved to rescind the motion of October 20, 2014 to have the present retirees pay 10% of their health insurance. Newton seconded. All in favor. Felton moved to have newly retiring employees effective April 1, 2015 pay 10% of their health insurance premium. After some discussion, it was decided to have a joint meeting with the utilities commissioners regarding this. DeWolfe will ask the commissioners if they would meet on December 1, 2014 at 6:30 PM.

Stewart said that David Paquette, Ernie Paquette's son was here. DeWolfe asked him to come up and sit at the table with the Board. Mr. Paquette handed DeWolfe a letter from Ernie stating that David could speak on his behalf. He explained that his father has been paying his health insurance for the last ten years. As a 20 year employee of the Town he should have had his health insurance paid by the town. He explained that he is requesting that the Town pay his father's health insurance going forward, and be reimbursed for the money that Ernie has paid. After much discussion, the Board decided that they would like a copy of a form from 2004 that Ernie had signed. The Board said that they will hopefully have a decision by their next meeting.

North Ashland Road – The cost to repair the wash out was \$2791. Branscombe mentioned that Don Latulippe provided services at no charge. The Board asked that Branscombe draft a letter. Tim Paquette was asked if everything was all set with the DES. He said that nothing further needs to be done. The State corrected a catch basin. Public Works will do some patching in the Spring. Moos Corner Bridge will be a few days longer, but he is keeping the Conway's and Mark Ober updated.

Economic Development Committee – update – Felton said that the next meeting will be tomorrow night at the school cafeteria. Michelle Therrien will be there to do a presentation of GIS mapping.

Financial Review – DeWolfe handed out a spreadsheet of expenditures with projections till the end of this year. He said if his projections are correct, we should have about \$37,000 left. Felton would like to see better projections from the department heads. Several lines are in jeopardy including the Administrative Assistant salary line, the overtime line, Finance Officer's line, and several Public Works lines. Stewart asked about the Health Officer line. Newton, who is the Health Officer, said that last year she wasn't paid for part of it so it was taken out of this year.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Medical Form – Not ready yet.

150<sup>th</sup> License Plate – DeWolfe explained that it will have to be designed and then will have to be approved by the State.

Warrant Articles – Branscombe explained. Newton asked if the Roads article could be changed to reflect sidewalks. After some discussion it was decided that it could be done. Felton explained the CIP recommendations. Branscombe will check with the department heads at the next meeting at the end of the month. Tim Paquette asked if he could speak about his articles in relation to the CIP recommendations. He said that he doesn't need a pick up anymore because of the truck that the water & sewer department gave to the town. His 2005 MACK truck will be okay for another year or two. The roads should stay the same at \$125,000 not the CIP recommendation of \$185,000. Preston agreed and said that the town can't afford some of the CIP recommendations. Branscombe will give the warrant articles to the Selectmen at the December 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

Asbestos in Town Hall – Asbestos has been discovered on the third floor in the town hall on pipes. Branscombe will get estimates from professionals to either cover the pipes or remove them.

Newton would like to explore the possibility of a newsletter to send out to residents. DeWolfe said that it will have to wait until next year.

Felton said that he would like to find out more about Sharepoint, a web filter, and the email exchange from Mike Lavelle.

There being no further business, Newton moved to go into Non-Public Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Felton seconded. Roll call Phil Preston, Jeanette Stewart, Steve Felton, Fran Newton, Normand DeWolfe. The time is 8:50 pm. The Board decided to take a two minute break.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Crowell  
11/20/14