

ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
DECEMBER 1, 2014

Call to Order - Chairman DeWolfe called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Roll Call - Selectmen present: Philip Preston, Frances Newton, Norman DeWolfe, Jeanette I. Stewart, Stephen Felton

Pledge of Allegiance

Others present – Water and Sewer Commissioners Badger and Cilley; Electric Commissioners Hughes, Hoerter, Vaughn; TA Branscombe, Clerk Tucker, members of the public

Personnel Policy review with the Water and Sewer Commissioners and the Electric Commissioners

Chairman DeWolfe highlighted the proposed changes in the policy as it was presented by the Personnel Policy Committee. Following review the following corrections or changes were made:

- Section 13 Employment Classifications – add on line 24 “Sick days are not counted as time worked for the purpose of overtime”.
- Motion by Stewart, seconded by DeWolfe to remove the word “generally” from Section 17 – General Hours of Work line 23. Discussion, vote 4-1 in favor
- Motion by Preston, seconded by DeWolfe to insert “non-union” on line 42 Section 37 Health Insurance vote 5-0
- Motion by Newton, seconded by DeWolfe to add “effective April 1, 2015” to line 46 Section 37 Health Insurance
- Motion by Felton, seconded by Newton to add to line 57 “Anyone retiring after January 1, 2015 effective April 1, 2015 will pay 10% of their health insurance premium; the town to pay 90%; discussion; vote 3-2 in favor

*Motion to adopt Personnel Policy as revised – Stewart; second- Newton; vote 5-0 in favor.*

## APPROVALS

Minutes November 3, 2015 – Motion to approve as written – Newton, second Felton; vote 4-0-1 (Stewart abstain) in favor.

Minutes November 10, 2015 – Motion to approve as written – Preston, second Stewart, vote 5-0 in favor.

Signature File – no items

## OLD BUSINESS

- Energy Efficiency – Lighting Update – TA Branscombe stated that the town hall, police department, library, booster club are finished; fire department, highway department are in process
- Energy Efficiency – Weatherproofing Town Hall – this will be included in 2015 budget; windows are a warrant article; *Motion to approve \$17,997 for the General Government Building line for the 2015 budget – DeWolfe; second Newton; vote 5-0 in favor*
- Town Hall Asbestos – a quote was received in the amount of \$2350 to wrap and \$2550 to abate the problem; discussion; *Motion to abate for the cost of \$2550 – Preston, second DeWolfe; vote 5-0*

- Meeting with CCS/Mike Lavelle – Selectman Felton spoke about the meeting with our IT contractor – discussed were the current process, moving forward, the completion of getting the internet off the phone lines; reviewing a tool [no cost] called Sharepoint; possibility of getting the fire department on the cloud; the need for a web filter [no cost]
- TAC Alternate – *Motion to appoint David Toth as alternate to TAC – Felton; second DeWolfe; vote 4-0-1 [Newton abstain]*

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Financial Forum – January 8, 2015 – 7 PM – School Cafeteria – there will be a presentation and question and answer period
- Ratification of New Tentative Union Contract Agreement – *Motion to approve agreement –Preston; second – Stewart; no discussion; vote 2-3; motion fails*
- Manhole Covers [Leavitt Hill and River Street] – PWD Paquette stated that the issues had been taken care of

#### **TOWN ADMINISTRATORS REPORT**

- Bridge over Owl Brook at Moo Corners can accommodate traffic; guard rails are being placed
- Town Office wiring almost complete
- Town Auditors will be at the office on December 9 for preliminary review
- UNH has developed application for online MS forms and for warrant articles
- Fire Department reported 35 calls in November; engine 1 back in service; hose testing has begun; ground ladder and aerial testing complete; 5 personnel have enrolled in EMT class
- Police Department logged 366 incidents, arrests, warrants, traffic violations for November and December; worked the school Halloween Parade; thanked PWD Paquette and Fire Chief Heath for their assistance; reminder to lock your car
- Public Works Department reported that work included graveling Owl Brook Road, cleaning Mechanic Street parking lot, removed beaver dam, fall maintenance, readied for storm, worked after storm
- Park and Recreation – 19 signed up for After School Program; Nov 21 “Kids Night Out” had 15 attend; December 19 will the Holiday Party 6-9 [cost \$5] register with Jim at 968-9209; club building has had lighting and heating upgrades completed
- Library – December activities include Dec 4 and 11 reading with Willow the therapy dog; preschool story time on Dec 5; pictures with Santa from 5-6:45 pm on Dec 5 [cost \$1]; holiday story time Dec 19 from 6-7
- Manifest for totals – payroll \$24,666.92; accounts payable \$43,444.65; welfare \$300; treasurer report \$1,126,861.66 balance
- Christmas Night in Ashland – Dec 5

#### **SELECTBOARD ITEMS**

- Selectman DeWolfe asked about the status of bridge at Moo Corners – PWD Paquette stated that it can be passed over, railings are being installed
- Selectman DeWolfe asked if handicapped spot on Mechanic Street is cleared – answer yes
- Selectman DeWolfe reported that Christmas Night in Ashland is December 5
- Selectman DeWolfe stated that the warrant articles will be reviewed on December 15

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- Selectman Newton stated that the priority table will be updated

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Jamie Lyford expressed concern about the Board's proposed action to board up private property [Scott Heath property]; reply from Board was that they were getting estimates and that it has been identified as dangerous
- Sherry Downing asked if the Board got estimates regarding the asbestos; this was from the closest vendor from the list from DES
- Dan Vaughn asked if the company was certified and the answer was yes
- Jamie Lyford disagreed with the Board's decision regarding retirees health insurance

**Taken by Patricia Tucker**

*At 8:00 PM the Board made motion to go into non- public – minutes attached*

*Reopened public session at 9:07 PM – minutes attached*