

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2015
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY**

MINUTES

Chairman DeWolfe called the meeting to order at 6:38 PM with a roll call. Steve Felton, Leigh Sharps, Fran Newton, Phil Preston, Normand DeWolfe.

Others Present: Pat Crowell

GUESTS

Lee Nichols – Would like to erect a 70’ flag pole at the Booster Club. He said that the Electric Department will pay for it. The Town would only be paying to light the flag at night. He said that it will not be raised until July 3rd of next year. Preston raised some concern about light pollution. Mike Lewis said that he would like to pay for the flag. Sharps moved to accept the plan to erect a flag at the Booster Club. DeWolfe seconded. Preston said he is not in favor because of the lighting issue. Asked Sue MacLeod about any Planning Board restrictions. She responded that they could be waived. All in favor 4-1.

Ann Barney – DeWolfe introduced Ann Barney as the new Park & Recreation Director. She said that they currently have 18 children in the after school program. Shannon Bartlett, the Elementary School Principal, has offered the schools help.

David Toth – Mr. Toth gave a presentation for the CIP Committee. He said that the presentation will also be on the Ashland website.

Carol Fucarile – Came to the Board to discuss drainage on Smith Hill Road. The water from the hill comes down and floods their yard. Not a new discussion. She would like the town to plug the culvert. Paquette said that is not a good idea. DeWolfe asked if the Fucarile’s had upgraded their leach field. She said they had. Paquette said that if it should be done it should be right by getting an engineer involved. DeWolfe said that the culvert which was installed several years ago adversely affects the flow of water from the hill. DeWolfe motioned to seek bid proposals to put in catch basins and drainage system down the left side of Smith Hill Road with the money to come out of the Highway Block Grant. Discussion followed about doing both sides. Paquette asked if the Board wanted estimates from a few contractors. Paquette will draw up specs and get estimates to do one side only and an estimate for both sides. DeWolfe motioned to seek bid proposals based on Paquette doing an RFP for catch basins and drainage for the lower part of Smith Hill Road. Newton seconded. Ms. Fucarile said that she only asked for a “bandaid” but was pleased that it will get fixed. Felton asked if the RFP will verify that the drainage will be sufficient. All in favor 5-0.

APPROVALS

Minutes of August 3, 2015 – Newton moved to approve as written. Felton seconded. Preston abstained. All in favor 4-0-1.

Minutes of August 5, 2015 – Newton moved to approve as written. Felton seconded. All in favor.

Minutes of August 12, 2015 – Preston moved to approve with corrections. Felton seconded. All in favor.

Minutes of August 17, 2015 (AM) – DeWolfe moved to approve as written. Felton seconded. All in favor.

Minutes of August 17, 2015(PM) – Newton moved to approve as written. DeWolfe seconded. All in favor.

Minutes of August 19, 2015 – Preston moved to approve as written. Felton seconded. All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Current Issue Log/Priority Table

The last update to the log was August 25, 2015. Several issues were brought up which will need to be updated in the log. Code Enforcement issues and GIS mapping were discussed.

Park & Rec Staff Search Update – Lindsay Hale, the Park & Rec after school supervisor, has given her notice. She found a full time job with benefits. A person was interviewed today and hired. Still looking for an assistant.

RFP's for Audit and Legal – The RFP for legal services has been finished and will be sent to 8 firms. DeWolfe motioned to send the RFP to the eight firms for legal services. Felton seconded. The respond date will be October 19th. All in favor 5-0. The RFP for audit services is still a work in progress.

NEW BUSINESS

River Street Paving Bids – DeWolfe mentioned that two bids were received. Felton had questions as to when they were received and opened. DeWolfe explained that they were received and stamped when they were received. They were opened at the town office on August 31, 2015 at 8:30AM. The bids were from Bryant Paving and GMI. Newton moved to award the job to Bryant Paving. Felton seconded. All in favor. Pat Crowell will draft letter to Bryant and GMI and Paquette will sign.

Paquette mentioned that the department has been doing some ditch work on Thompson Street. He would like to continue and needs at least three more loads of mix. Newton moved to authorize Paquette to get three more loads to finish the ditch work on Thompson Street. DeWolfe seconded. All in favor.

Bid Policy - The policy was last reviewed in 2012. Felton would like to review other town's policies.

West Street Pavement Damage – DeWolfe explained what happened. Lt. Ulwick said that the attorney said it is a civil action, not criminal. He suggested a “friendly” letter to the offending company. Paquette said that the estimate to repair the road is \$4700. The Selectmen will send a letter.

A Citizen inquiry was received today from River Bend Condo Assn. They said that there are several vehicles parked in the right of way. Chief Randall explained that the Town owns the right of way. Mike Lewis said that he has lived on North Ashland Road for about 13 years. After much discussion, it was decided that Felton will write a letter to the owner of the vehicles. The Chief said that the Police Department will continue to patrol the area.

Security at the Booster Club – Newton said that there are too many people that have keys. Will ask Ann Barney to follow up and get a list of the people that have keys.

DeWolfe asked who the Town uses for monitoring the town buildings. Advanced Lock and Alarm, which used to be 123 Lock and Key, has contacted the town. The Board feels that all the town buildings should use the same company. Advanced is local and can respond more timely. The Board asked Pat Crowell to find out if the company we use now has an opt out policy. The Booster Club has direct wiring, but it hasn't been hooked up yet. DeWolfe said that the battery operated smoke

detectors just got batteries installed. Paquette mentioned that the Joint Loss Management Committee used to have a budget of \$1500 and these kind of things were done using that money. The JLMC budget is now only \$2000. The Board will follow up with the committee to discuss a budget proposal for the coming year.

PRLAC meeting update- Sharps discussed the items discussed at the last meeting she attended. She explained that eleven communities would be able to clean up the river with the draw down. Will consult with DES and the Conservation Commission, but not feasible to organize. Northern Pass has said that some lines will be underground, but all should be. She also mentioned a water protection grant and will talk with the Water and Sewer Dept. Preston mentioned that there are county meetings for Northern Pass tonight. He said that Eversource has bought a piece of property on the river by the Bridgewater Power Plant and explained why they needed it. Preston said that he will go to the meeting on Thursday night in Laconia and report back to the Board.

Budget Preparation – Crowell will send an email to department heads to have their proposed budgets ready to meet with the Board. The Board had decided that the meetings will be at 7:30 am on Sept. 16, Sept. 24, and Sept. 30th at the town office.

SELECTBOARD ITEMS

RSA 466:14 – Warrant proceedings – Unlicensed dogs – Completed

HealthTrust – Many plan changes – Schedule meeting

MS Forms – Two pieces are done for tax rate setting. Revenue is down from last year.

Warrant requests received.

Received refund from HealthTrust of \$15,707.

Ashland Properties – Phase 1 recommendations

CCS – Town Administrator will investigate email problems because of server.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kathleen DeWolfe mentioned to Sharps how clean the Pemi River is.

There being no further business, Newton moved to adjourn at 9:20 PM. Sharps seconded. All in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Crowell

9-14-15