

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN WORKSESSION
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2015
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY**

MINUTES

Chairman DeWolfe called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with a roll call. Steve Felton, Leigh Sharps, Fran Newton, Phil Preston, Normand DeWolfe.

Others Present: Town Administrator Heather Thibodeau and Pat Crowell

OLD BUSINESS

Smith Hill Road – Tim Paquette reported that he met with some engineers. There is “No Bandaid” for this project. Smith Hill Road should be part of overall project with Thompson Street. Felton met with Novis Engineering and said that they would be consulting engineer for the project. The Board would like to send out RFQ’s soon.

Recycling Center Baler – Tim Paquette said that a new baler would be a little more than \$11,400. He asked that the Board consider putting it in the budget. He said that the cracked hinges on the old baler have been fixed, but it is very old. He said that he can get a used baler for \$2500 and trade that in for a new baler. Newton moved to purchase the used baler for \$2500. Sharps seconded. All in favor.

Audit Services RFP – The requests have been sent and are due back in December.

Current Issue Log – Felton asked about the asbestos. TA Thibodeau said that she is waiting for prices. We are still waiting to hear about the fire escape, Fire Chief Heath said that he has left him messages.

Budgeting – The Selectmen’s budget is less than the default budget, but more than last year.

Warrant Articles – Walter Mitchell said that the Utilities can be separated. The Board will discuss warrant articles at their meeting on Wednesday 11/18.

Northern Pass Meeting – Thibodeau said that the answers were not sufficient and a lot more needs to be researched. Felton said that Tony from Novis would meet with the Selectboard and any other groups. Felton will coordinate meeting.

July 4th Committee Meeting – DeWolfe spoke. He said that the committee would like to have the fireworks at the school property next year, the school will decide at their next meeting. They also voted to go under the Heritage Commission.

GIS steering committee update – Felton spoke. The committee met with Michelle. Hydrants and covers are mapped out. She can customize the contract to meet the \$10,000 budget. The Board said that a PSU intern might be helpful.

NEW BUSINESS

Conservation Commission appointment – DeWolfe introduced Walter Durack who gave a short description of himself. Newton moved to appoint Walter Durack to the Conservation Commission. Sharps seconded. All in favor.

Heritage Commission ability to receive donations RSA 674:44-b,I(h) – After some discussion, Preston moved to approve that the Heritage Commission can accept gifts of money and property. Sharps seconded. All in favor.

Emergency Management program grant – Chief Heath spoke. He said that the plan should be redone every 5 years. The Town would not be eligible for grants and funds if not updated. Newton moved to apply for grant. Sharps seconded. All in favor. Heath also recommended that a Capital Reserve account be set up for Emergencies.

Cleaning Service – Jenn Lyford was in the audience and was asked to speak on this issue. She didn't want it to be in Non-Public. DeWolfe mentioned that there have been concerns over the Booster Club getting cleaned at least two times per week. Lyford said that she can do this now, but couldn't before because she is a volleyball coach. She said that she has good communication with Ann Barney. The Booster Club is currently being cleaned on Wednesday and Saturday. Lyford mentioned that she doesn't clean the stove in the kitchen. Thibodeau will check and see if Food for All can keep that clean. Lyford was asked if she would consider being a contracted service. She will do some research.

Campground Leases – The Board will look over the current lease and also send it to legal. If fees are going to be increased, a warrant article will need to be done. Thibodeau will get a sample of leases from other towns.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

Thibodeau mentioned that she has applications for the Deputy Fire Chief. She also mentioned that there is a new job description for the Administrative Assistant which will be discussed in Non-Public session. She is in the process of getting a proposal from Certified Computer and a presentation in regards to a new email program.

SELECTBOARD ITEMS

There is a Pemi River Advisory Board meeting next Tuesday. Eli Badger has paperwork and David Toth will get together with him to work on planning grant.

There being no other business, **Newton moved to go into Non-Public Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II (a) at 8:00 PM.** Felton seconded. All in favor 5-0 **Roll Call Vote:** Preston, yes: Sharps yes; DeWolfe, yes: Newton, yes: Felton, yes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Crowell
11-18-15