

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**  
**Wednesday, January 13, 2016**  
**Ashland Fire Station**  
**7:30 AM**

**MINUTES**

Chairman DeWolfe called the meeting to order at 7:37 AM with a roll call. Norm DeWolfe, Fran Newton, Steve Felton, Leigh Sharps and Phil Preston (late) were present.

Others present: TA Heather Thibodeau, FD Chief Heath

**Fire Engine Warrant Article**

The Board discussed the request by the Budget Committee to reconsider the length of the Fire engine lease/purchase from 5 years to up to 10 years to reduce the yearly dollar amount to hopefully convince the voters to approve the Warrant Article. FD Chief Heath recommended that we leave the term as is. The increased interest would be considerable. The Board unanimously agreed to keep the article the same.

**Guest Speaker**

Peter Grote, Chair of the Franconia committee against Northern Pass as currently planned spoke to the Board about the possibility of Ashland joining the Coalition. Peter has targeted 30 communities for this Coalition and hopes to get 15 to join. The coalition would present a united front with everyone on the same page, sharing what we all have in common. They have hired an attorney and engineer. He estimated the fee to be around \$10,000 per community. The Board decided to read the info and discuss further at a future meeting.

**Other Business**

The Board signed the response letter to the Fucarile's.

The Processing of Welfare- The Board discussed the new procedure for the handling of General Assistance in the future. A Motion was made by F. Newton, seconded by S Felton "to institute new procedure for processing Welfare eliminating Thursday night hours, making applications available during normal town business hours, interviewing and processing on a case by case basis effective January 18,2016". Vote 5-0. Moved unanimously.

The memorandum of Agreement between the Ashland School District/SAU and the Town to allow the fireworks to be fired off on the school grounds was discussed. Legal has no problem with the MOA. TA Thibodeau is awaiting response from Primex. The Board authorized Thibodeau to sign after we receive OK from Primex.

TA Thibodeau passed out a campground lease from a campground in Bridgton Maine for the BOS to review for further discussion.

TA Thibodeau presented two estimates for outsourcing payroll. The Board discussed the options and requested that the TA get a more accurate number of employees and update the estimate. To be discussed at future meeting.

The Board then discussed the warrant articles. A vote was taken on each warrant article to recommend or not to include all 5 Selectmen. The result were as follows:

Fire Truck Article- BOS recommends 5-0. New Library Article- BOS does not recommend 3-2. Mini Loader Article- BOS recommends 5-0. Loader Article-BOS recommends 5-0. Road CR article-BOS recommends 5-0. PD vehicle article-BOS recommends 5-0. FD CR article-BOS recommends 5-0. CR for DPW article- BOS recommends 4-1. Town Building CR article-BOS recommends 5-0. BOS allowed to amend fees article- BOS recommends 5-0. MV fee article-BOS recommends 5-0. Recycling ordinance ratification article- BOS recommends 5-0. Rescind juvenile curfew article- BOS recommends 5-0. Raise campground fees article-BOS recommends 4 -1. Emergency Management CR fund article- BOS recommends 5-0. Recycling Article – BOS recommends 5-0. Juvenile curfew article- BOS recommends 5-0. Disorderly action article-BOS recommends 5-0.

**Petitioned articles** -Voices against article BOS does NOT recommend 3-2. Library CR article- BOS recommends 5-0. CADY- BOS recommends 5-0. Pemi Baker Community Health- BOS recommends 5-0. Grafton Senior Council- BOS recommends 5-0. Day away program article- BOS does NOT recommend 5-0. Tri County article- BOS recommends 5-0

The Board discussed the intervener status for Northern Pass. Steve updated BOS.

### **Budget**

The Board discussed a few changes on the Budget worksheets. They were:

FIN Salary Treasurer- BOS revised \$4588- Default-\$4588.

GGB cleaning salary-BOS and default to \$1.

PD Admin Salaries –BOS to \$126,019.

P & R cleaning salary- BOS and Default to \$1.

The Board unanimously approved these changes.

### **Other Business continued**

The Board discussed the citizen complaint regarding the town assessor. Board decided to give C. Cilley a copy of the Assessor's response to share with the complainant.

TA Thibodeu updated the Board regarding the asbestos issue in the Town Hall. She is awaiting the estimates for floor covering replacement. She will update at next meeting.

S. Felton requested update on P & R and Booster Club. The Board agreed. The Board requested that all department head monthly reports be re instituted again.

Town e-mail was discussed. F. Newton and S.Felton volunteered to be 2 of the 3 testers of the proposed e-mail program. The Board suggested the Susan Mcleod be the third. TA will contact and set up.

Norm DeWolfe made a motion to go into non-public session according to RSA 91-A:3, II(c),reputation at 9:39 AM. Fran Newton seconded the motion and with a roll call vote, all voted yes. The Board discussed contacting Alex Ray regarding Cedar Lane. No other action taken.

Public session resumed at 9:50 AM. .

Fran Newton made a motion to adjourn at 9:50 AM and Phil Preston seconded the motion. All approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Norm DeWolfe  
1-13-16