

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, March 7, 2016
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY**

MINUTES

Chairman DeWolfe called the meeting to order at 6:32 PM with a roll call. Steve Felton, Norm DeWolfe, Fran Newton, Leigh Sharps, Phil Preston, present.

Others Present: Town Administrator Heather Thibodeau and Pat Crowell

APPROVALS

Minutes of February 1, 2016 – Newton moved to approve as written. Felton seconded. All in favor
Minutes of February 16, 2016 – Felton moved to approve as amended. Under Selectboard Items, Sharps added “and NH Solar Gardens do presentations” to the next to the last sentence. Newton seconded. All in favor.

OLD BUSINESS

Current Issue Log – Solar Energy will be added to the log. Thibodeau said that there will be a full report this week on the Whipple House and a meeting will have to be set up with the Historical Society and the Heritage Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

Application for Heritage Commission – McLeod – Newton moved to appoint Susan McLeod to the Heritage Commission. Preston seconded. All in favor. The Chairman stressed the fact that the Town needs more volunteers.

John McLean – Mr. McLean explained that he was here to speak about the Moo Corners Bridge. He mentioned that there are rumors of impropriety. He said that he has done research. There are three abutters. Mark Ober uses the land for his cows and haying. He said that the bridge was called Hackett Bridge. Tim Paquette said that Mr. McLean should have come to him and he would have explained the timeline and the project. Mark Ober spoke and feels that he is being “hung out to dry”. There was no special interest. After much discussion, Mr. McLean said that the town was completely exonerated. Felton said that TAC is reviewing all the roads in town.

Preston said that on Monday, March 14th there will be a Northern Pass meeting at Plymouth State University. He said that he had attended a meeting Meredith. He said that anyone can speak at the meeting.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

Department Head Reports - Thibodeau said that Department Head reports are due by the 10th of the month. She read highlites from the reports that she had.

Camper Scholarship Funds – Ann Barney is requesting funds for a child in the after school program. The AARA has been paying for a child to go for a while now. Preston moved to allow payment from the fund. Newton seconded. All in favor.

Card Tournaments at the Booster Club – Ann Barney would like to set up tournaments at the Booster Club. The Board of Selectmen said that it's OK with them as long as she checks on it first.

Flag Island signage – Thibodeau talked with DOT and was told that a sign can't be put on Flag Island. She has downloaded information on signs from the DOT and it is at the town office.

Emergency Management Meeting – The BOS said that they were not aware of the meeting. The next meeting will be April 12th.

Liquor Store – Thibodeau said that the liquor store in Ashland will be closing.

Finance Officer Application Process – Thibodeau reported that the person that interviewed has withdrawn her application. We will be accepting applications until March 15th.

SELECTBOARD ITEMS

Voting Coverage March 8th – Felton 8am – 10am, Newton 10am – 12:30pm, Preston 12:30 – 3:30, Sharps 3:30pm – 7pm, DeWolfe 5pm – 7pm.

The Chairman announced that this was Phil Preston's last meeting as a Selectman. The Board of Selectmen presented him with a plaque and thanked him for his service to the Town of Ashland.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A citizen asked a question regarding Smith Hill Road & Thompson Street. Felton answered that Nobis Engineering will be helping, but no firm has been chosen as yet. There will be a meeting on March 16th for the transportation committee.

Peter Jorgensen asked about Highland Street. The town owns some sections and the state owns some sections. David Toth explained that ATAC has met with DOT. Engineering will begin in 2018 and the road will be done in 2020. Water pipe needs to be replaced. Everything will be done at the same time. It will be a coordinated effort.

Kathleen DeWolfe said that the road sign for North Ashland Road is missing.

David Toth said that the ATAC is advisory committee only. They don't make any decisions. Winona Road will be done in 2017. The Chairman asked about North Ashland Road and will forward any recommendations. Line painting, guard rails, and signs will cost about \$75,000.

Jeanette Stewart asked about the piece of road in front of Jeff Lyfords house on Highland St. It is state owned.

Chief Randall thanked Phil Preston for his service to the Town.

There being no other business, **Newton moved to go into Non-Public Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II (a) at 7:41 PM.** Preston seconded. All in favor 5-0 **Roll Call Vote:** Preston, yes; Sharps, yes; DeWolfe, yes; Felton, yes, Newton, yes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia Crowell
3-11-16