

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN WORK SESSION
MONDAY MARCH 21, 2016
ASHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY
6:30 PM**

Chairman DeWolfe called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with a roll call. Harold Lamos, Leigh Sharps, Fran Newton and Normand DeWolfe.

Others Present: Town Administrator Heather Thibodeau and Pat Crowell

SIGNATURE FILE

Selectmen will sign the items in the Signature file during the meeting.

The Chairman welcomed new member Harold Lamos. He also said that the Board had re-organized on March 14th. DeWolfe is chairman and Fran Newton is vice-chairman. DeWolfe also mentioned that members of the Board volunteered to be either ex-officio or liaisons to the different committees.

OLD BUSINESS

Review Current Issue Log – The Board received an up to date copy of the Current Issue Log. There were no questions.

Roger Larochelle, Squam Lakes Conservation Society – Mr. Larochelle wanted to keep the Board informed in regards to Whitten Woods. They would like to put the entire parcel into current use status. Boundary issues need to be resolved. They will be building a 10 car parking area and aren't sure if that can be part of current use also. They will meet with Patsy Tucker and the Ashland assessor. There are three owners now; Squam Lakes Conservation Society, Squam Lakes Association, and the NE Forestry Association. Ultimately it will be just the NE Forestry Foundation.

NEW BUSINESS

Winter Street Bridge – Tim Paquette reported that the retaining wall is starting to deteriorate. He will call someone from the State because the bridge is on the state's list. The rough estimate is between 30 and 40 thousand. The Board asked about the covered bridge which is red listed.

Truck Bids – Lamos opened the envelopes. The Capital Reserve for purchase or repair of a truck was approved. Irwin Motors in Laconia was \$32,648, AutoServe in Tilton was \$33,839, and Grappone in Concord was \$30,264. The truck would be ready in 8 – 10 weeks. DeWolfe moved to approve the purchase of the truck from Grappone. Newton seconded. All in favor.

Conservation Commission resignation – Rene Liebert resigned. DeWolfe said that there are two openings on the Commission.

Moderator Compensation – The current moderator, Bobbi Hoerter, would like to be compensated more for what she does. Other town's pay more for a moderator. Ashland currently pays \$75. Hoerter would like \$150. Newton moved to increase the compensation for \$75 to \$150. Lamos seconded. All in favor.

Library Payment – DeWolfe said that they had received a request from the Library for a payment schedule. The first payment will be in April. All of the Selectboard were in favor of the schedule.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town Administrator Heather Thibodeau read a letter from Chief Stevens from the Hill Police Dept. thanking Chief Randall for his assistance in letting Dan Hamilton qualify Chief Stevens at the range here in Ashland.

Whipple House Inspection – The Building Inspector has finished the inspection and Chief Heath has finished the safety inspection. The Board, Historical Society, and the Heritage Commission will meet soon.

Thibodeau reported that she has received four resumes for the **Finance Officer** position. Two people have dropped out and one is a contract. Thibodeau said that the person who is most qualified and could do the job on day one is contracted. Sharps moved to hire the contracted person at \$55.00 hour (which could be temporary until a finance officer can be hired). Newton seconded. All in favor.

Thibodeau asked the Board about using golf carts at the **Campground**. No one has ever asked about it. The Board felt that as long as the cart was not driving on the beach itself that it would be no problem. Suggested that a policy be developed for golf carts at the Campground. Thibodeau said that card games have started at the Booster Club.

The Board asked Thibodeau about the Info-Blast program. She said that she has someone coming in on March 29th to help her with that. The Board also wanted to know when the email training would be She stated that it would be either the 30th or the 31st.

SELECTBOARD ITEMS

Lamos reported on a meeting regarding **Northern Pass**. A speaker was picked for the pre-hearing on Tuesday, who will be given just five minutes to speak.

Beach Sand Replenishment – Time Paquette, Thibodeau and Walter Durack (Conservation Commission chairman) will meet on April 20th at 6:30.

Electric Commission – DeWolfe attended the electric commission meeting last Wednesday. He said that they want to expand their building to house a piece of equipment; and also discussed benefits administration. The Board will meet with the Electric Commissioner's on April 11th at 6:30pm upstairs in the Town Office to discuss these issues.

PRLAC – Sharps will report at the next meeting.

ATAC update – David Toth said that the committee met with Nobis last week. The committee will do an RFQ for engineering services and will need their help. Would like the engineering done by November 15th, so that a warrant article can be written. DeWolfe asked about North Ashland Road. Toth said that the most cost effective way to help would be signs. He said that there were no safety concerns.

There were no Public Comments.

There being no other business, Newton moved to adjourn at 7:37 pm. DeWolfe seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Crowell
3-23-16