

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES  
TUESDAY JULY 5, 2016  
ASHLAND FIRE STATION  
6:30 PM**

Vice-Chairman Newton called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with a roll call. Steve Felton, Harold Lamos, Leigh Sharps, Fran Newton, present

Others Present: Town administrator Heather Thibodeau and Pat Crowell

The Board signed the items in the Signature File. They also signed the Payroll and Accounts Payable manifest and check registers.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Newton reported that the New Hampshire Liquor Commission would like a response to their letter asking if the Town would like to buy the Ashland liquor store property. The state will sell it to us for \$1,100,000. The property is assessed for about \$500,000. Felton motioned to forgo purchase of the property. Sharps seconded. All in favor 4-0.

The Board would like **NOBIS** Engineering to come to their next worksession to discuss plans going forward.

**Current Issue Log** – Some discussion and updating.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Signage** – Katie Maher, member of the Heritage Commission, would like a coordinated approach so that signs in Ashland are consistent and appropriate.

**Fire Equipment Report** – Chief Heath said that it is a preliminary report and will sort out and prioritize what needs to be done. He said that the fire engines have serious concerns. The Board appreciated the Chief's hard work and said that this is urgent. Newton said that we can't belong to mutual aid if we don't have the equipment.

**Water & Sewer Dept.** has agreed to pay 19% of the engineering costs for Thompson Street.

**Conservation** – Lamos said that there is some information on the Town's website regarding milfoil in the river and other concerns.

**TA Search** – There are 3 interviews scheduled over the next two weeks.

**HR Director** – Felton has had a discussion with someone and will hear this week if she wants to take the job. Asked Thibodeau for a job description with minimum requirements. Will finalize at the worksession and post.

**TA Report** – Thibodeau said that the Budget Committee would like mid-year meetings with department heads. She will set them up. LRPC may have Brownfields money and are interested in Ashland. Hope to hear something before snow flies. We have a new Building Inspector, Al LaPlante. He will have Friday office hours and is available by appointment during the week. Thibodeau read a letter from Robert Smith in regards to Chief Randall being very helpful. She then read a letter from herself thanking the people that she has worked with over the past ten months. Newton thanked Thibodeau for her dedication to the town.

### **Selectboard Items**

TAP Grant opportunity – Thibodeau wrote letter. The grant is \$400,000 with an 80/20 split. It would still need a town vote.

Newton read a letter from Wendy Thompson who is walking across the state with her son to raise awareness for Lyme disease. They need a place to stay on August 16<sup>th</sup>.

Felton thanked all the people who worked this weekend (July 4<sup>th</sup>). Lamos and Sharps also wanted to thank Katie Maher and her committee.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Tim Paquette reported that we no longer have a grader. The grader itself is a 1985 and has a rebuilt transmission that is no longer fixable. He will do some research on used graders.

Liz Stevens, a volunteer at the Community Gardens, said that they have a groundhog at the gardens that they would like to trap and re-located. She would like the Boards approval. Lamos made a motion to allow the committee to have a trapper catch the groundhog and re-locate it. Sharps seconded. All in favor.

Ingrid Heidenreich, who is a business owner, said that she received a letter on June 30<sup>th</sup> that told abutters that the July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks would be beside her house. She said that the town should have held a meeting for the abutters. Her property was covered with ash and debris and customer's cars were covered also. The Board said that she should meet with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Committee.

**Newton moved to go into Non-Public Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II (a) at 7:20 PM.** Felton seconded. All in favor 4-0 **Roll Call Vote:** Lamos, yes; Sharps, yes; Felton, yes, Newton, yes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Crowell  
7-8-16