

ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN WORKSESSION MINUTES
MONDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2016
ASHLAND FIRE STATION
5:30 PM

Chairman Newton called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM with a roll call. Fran Newton, Leigh Sharps, Harold Lamos, Kathleen Maher, present. Steve Felton came in about 6:25pm.

Others Present: Town Administrator Charles Smith and Pat Crowell

Ann Barney, Parks & Recreation Director explained her budget. The Board went thru each line. Some discussion about the department's Facebook page. Discussion regarding the propane stove in the Booster Club. Ms. Barney would like to replace it with an electric stove. There were questions about the Electric Department not reading the meters at the Campground. Lamos will get an estimate on replacing the shed at the Beach. Will look into grants for AED's at the Booster Club and the Beach.

Steve Heath & Bob Bousquet presented the Fire Department's budget. Discussed contract services. The ambulance contract will go up about 1%.

Jeff Hayes from LRPC talked about Brownfields funds which help with environmental projects. Assessments funds are also available. Brownfield Phase II assessment gives engineers cost estimates. He also spoke about the Transportation Advisory Committee which can do culvert assessments and pavement plans. DOT, Homeland Security, and DES are all interested in data from culverts assessment. The Board said that they would like to get Ashland on the list for road conditions and culverts.

Selectmen signed the Payroll, Accounts Payable, and the items in the Selectmen's Signature File.

Smith explained the BayRing contract and Fairpoint contracts. They are each three year deals. Smith said that BayRing contract will save a good deal of money. Maher will work with Smith on getting a better deal.

Schedule a Public Hearing for recycling fees. Newton said that it will be just ahead of our next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Flag Policy – Maher has put together a flag policy. DPW is in charge of the Flag at the Booster Club. We need to make sure the DPW is signed up for notifications. Maher will talk with Dupuis Cross regarding their flag.

Union Negotiations – Felton said that the negotiating team met their objectives of getting a contract, fair wages, and health insurance contributions. Lamos moved to accept the tentative agreement with the Union. Felton seconded. All in favor.

SELECTBOARD ITEMS

Town Website – Elected officials contact information – The Board said that elected officials should be reachable. Mardean Badger does not want to put personal numbers on the website. Will get list of boards and commissions and get their permission to put email addresses on website or P O boxes.

Lamos asked if the town could charge for boat storage at the campground parking lot. It could be a source of revenue. The Board agreed to check on this.

The Chairman said that the Board has received a budget request from the 4th of July Committee.

Lamos explained the request from the Public Works Dept. for a furnace at the Transfer Station. Tim Paquette asked the Board to purchase a used one for \$4500. Lamos moved to purchase furnace for \$4500. Felton second. All in favor.

TAC – Would like to have Tim Paquette as an alternate on TAC. David Toth said that the TAC has a close relationship with LRPC. He said that the town is still in running for a grant and have a good chance of getting it.

Katie Maher will attend the NHMA conference.

Felton said that the soil tests should be completed this week that were done at the new building site at the Electric Department. Best management practices for Knotweed will go on the Current Issue Log. He also mentioned that the Selectmen had received a Citizens Complaint form in regards to how the Selectmen handled the new building. NHMA and our own legal firm were notified. The new building is considered a town asset.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

David Ruell asked when the department budgets would be ready. The Board will meet on Monday, October 24th at 7:30am to finish the process.

Chief Randall said that Saturday, October 22, will be a Drug Take Back day from 10-2 pm at the Police Department on Highland Street. He also said that they received a thank you note for opening a car door along with a check for \$50. Board said to send the check back with a thank you letter and suggest a charity that it could be donated to. Chief Randall said that he is not planning on any extra security at the polls on November 8th. He said that he will be working that day and also the Lieutenant.

Felton moved to go into Non-Public Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II (a) at 7:37 PM. Lamos seconded. All in favor 5-0 **Roll Call Vote:** Lamos, yes; Sharps, yes; Felton, yes, Newton, yes, Maher, yes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pat Crowell

10-19-16