

ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2017
ASHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CAFETERIA
6:30 PM

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

Others Present: Town Administrator Charles Smith and Administrative Assistant Pat Crowell

The Board signed the Payroll and Accounts Payable Manifests and also the items in the signature file.

MINUTES

February 13 – Sharps moved to approve as amended. Felton seconded. All in favor 4-0. Maher abstained.

February 22 – Sharps moved to approve as amended. Felton seconded. All in favor 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

4th of July Committee – Amanda Loud, chair of the committee spoke. This year will be the 57th annual celebration. Because of increasing expenses, decreasing revenues, and lack of volunteers, she said that this year will be the last for the fireworks. The parade will still take place. Chairman Newton thanked the committee and the Board is sorry that it won't be able to continue.

LCHIP grant – Katie Maher explained that the grant is in effect for two years. There is a flyer for the grant and the Board decided that it should go on the town web site. The Board authorized TA Smith to sign the grant.

Site Access and Entry Agreement – EverSource – The Board would like an opinion for Attorney Steven Whitely. Lamos motioned that TA Smith will review the agreement with Whitely and get it in writing for the new Board. Sharps seconded. All in favor.

SELECTBOARD ITEMS

Chairman Newton explained the “Right to Know” law. She stressed that emails should not be a “Reply to All”. Reply to All would mean that it is a meeting. Lamos read his email. After some discussion, Chairman Newton would like all of the other town committee chairs to receive a copy of the Right to Know law and flow sheet.

Maher asked about the legal opinion in regards to the new electric building. She has copies of minutes from the Trustees of the Trust Funds. She commented that they were very unsatisfactory. The Board will review the material and take it up at the next meeting.

Elections on March 14th – Newton will be out of town that day. Felton will be gone most of the day but will be able to be there about 7pm. Eli and Mardean Badger will be there.

The Chairman stated that this is the last meeting for Steve Felton, Katie Maher, and Pat Crowell.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sherry Downing had questions about Selectmen Lamos's email. She also commented on The Chairman's use of the budget being cut. Downing said that the Budget Committee works very hard.

Sandra Coleman asked about the \$10,000 that was encumbered in 2016 but was not signed until January 9th meeting. TA Smith explained that it was legal. He had contacted the auditors and legal. He will get it in writing. The reason that the town encumbered the money is so that there will be money so that the Finance Officer can go to the budget meetings.

Tejasinha Sivalingam also inquired about the Right to Know email.

Jeanette Stewart asked if the new electric building had been paid for yet. The Chairman said that she should ask the Electric Department. Sandra Coleman, who is an Electric Commissioner, said that they have requested the funds from the Trustees, but have not received any money. Some of the money has been paid out of the budget. They are not yet using the building because the floor has to cure.

Katie Maher said that she was sorry that she had to serve out the rest of Normand DeWolfe's term. Leigh Sharps said that he would have been glad that she did.

There being no other business, **Felton moved to go into Non-Public Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II (a) at 7:25 PM.** Sharps seconded. All in favor 5-0 **Roll Call Vote:** Lamos, yes; Felton, yes, Maher, yes, Sharps, yes, Newton, yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Crowell
March 8, 2017