

TOWN OF ASHLAND
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 19, 2011

Call to Order

Chairman Stewart called the Ashland Board of Selectmen (Board) meeting to order at 7 PM.

Roll Call

Present Daniel Golden, Glenn Dion, Jeanette I. Stewart

Others Present

TA Branscombe, Clerk Tucker, members of the public

Pledge of Allegiance

The assembly was led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Disposition of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes of December 5, 2011 with the following correction [page 3, line 25 change "see" to "start"] – Stewart; second – Dion; vote 3-0

Motion to approve minute of December 12, 2011 with the following corrections [page 1, line 19 change "he" to "Edmund White"; page 1, line 43 add "and Commissioners" after "Board"; page 2 line 17 change "three" to "four"] – Stewart; second – Golden; vote 3-0.

Old Business

- Fire Department Roof - another quote was received for \$44,000 to include insulation and engineering costs - *Action - TA Branscombe is to look into cost of an engineer to look at the roof.*
- Union Contract - Selectman Stewart announced that the union contract had been reached and will be ready for vote in March

New Business

- Health Insurance Contribution by Employees - the Board reviewed the exhibits given to them by TA Branscombe showing contributions of 5% - 10%; following discussion the decision was deferred until January 3 so that a legal opinion can be obtained as to whether or not the commissioners have a vote in this process
- Local Polling Hours - *motion to set the polling hours for local elections at 8 am to 7 pm - Golden; second - Stewart; vote 3-0*

Town Administrators Report

- Taping of meetings will begin January 3
- Website will go live first of the year
- Representative from School Care will be meeting with Board and Commissioners on January 5 at 8:30 AM
- Budget Committee working on town budget

- New transfer station attendants are Douglas Ober and Richard Hutchinson
- TA Branscombe and Selectmen Dion attended the Scribner Trustees meeting regarding the fire department report; a plan of action is being prepared

Select Board Items - None

Public Comments

- Chief Randall announced that one of the computers stolen from the library had been recovered; investigation is ongoing
- Jamie Lyford spoke about the RSA regarding pistol permits
- Jamie Lyford asked how many qualified candidates there were for the transfer station attendant job - **answer was two**
- Jamie Lyford asked why the town was not looking for a used piece of equipment for the transfer station - **Mr. Ober did look into that option**
- Ingrid Heidenreich - asked if the Board had considered an upward increase in employee contribution towards health insurance [Stewart - said that a step process should be looked into; Golden - said that the 5% is a start and may be adjusted; Dion - said that it should go up to 20% over time depending on the plan]
- Jamie Lyford asked if the Board was going to reconsider including the warrant article for the fire department "Americorps" position; it was noted that this was not a grant writing position as stated and that is proposed to be a supervised entry level position - Selectman Stewart suggested if Mr. Lyford wanted to proceed with a petitioned warrant article for this the deadline is January 10, 2012.

Motion to adjourn at 7:59 PM - Stewart; second - Golden; vote 3-0

Taken by Patricia Tucker