



TOWN OF ASHLAND ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT  
6 COLLINS STREET  
ASHLAND, NH 03217

Office (603)968-3083  
Fax (603)968-9048

July 17, 2013

### **Joint Meeting of Ashland Select Board, Electric Department Commissioners and Water/Sewer Commissioners**

Select Board Chairman Stewart at 9:05 a.m. announced meeting would be going into non-public. Sandra Coleman, an Ashland resident who was present in the audience for the Select Board's previous Work Session, said she objected to this meeting being non-public and asked for a vote of the 3 boards. Discussion was had regarding this being public vs. non-public. Chairman Stewart said she would not allow it to be public as discussion could be had which could harm the reputation of a Select Board member.

Electric Commissioner Chairman Hughes asked if the Select Board had brought the latest Union Contract, which included the police as union members, and also a copy of the police sergeant's job description. Chairman Stewart indicated there is not a new contract, and the police are under the former Union Contract dated 3/23/12. Chairman Stewart said she did not have copies of either with her, but would provide the Electric Commissioners with a copy.

Commissioner Hughes asked Commissioner Hoerter to distribute copies of the Union Contract to all present. Commissioner Hoerter asked Stewart: did the police receive a raise, based on them joining the union? Stewart said yes they received the automatic pay increase by step. Commissioner Hoerter asked as follow up: Are the police who joined the union still paying the 5% toward health insurance? Stewart first said she didn't know, but guessed they were not paying the 5%. Hoerter asked if the Town had picked up that cost of health insurance. Stewart indicated the Town had picked up that cost.

Discussion was had regarding the union negotiation team's meeting re: bringing the police department into the union. Chairman Stewart indicated she and Dan Golden had voted "yes, Bob Boyle "no" and Kendall Hughes did not vote, as he had to leave the meeting.

Commissioner Hughes pointed out that in the Union Contract, Article 1, Recognition, did not include police and the final Union Wage Rate Schedule did not include police positions. Chairman Stewart then produced a different copy of the Wage Rate Schedule, indicating the same date as our copy as of 4/1/2013 which does show police officers. The Electric Commissioners did not have a copy of the new version, as on 7/16/13 Town Hall had sent the Wage Schedule with no police positions to the Electric Department.



TOWN OF ASHLAND ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT  
6 COLLINS STREET  
ASHLAND, NH 03217

Office (603)968-3083  
Fax (603)968-9048

Chairman Stewart made copies of the Amended Wage Schedule for all Utility Commissioners.

Electric Commissioner Dan Vaughn addressed RSA 273A:3(b) re: cost items for police and why there hadn't been a warrant article re: same on the March ballot. Chairman Stewart indicated the Town Attorney said they didn't need to be on a warrant article and this was considered "domestic housekeeping". The Electric Commissioners also distributed to all present a copy of RSA 273:A.

Electric Commissioner Chair Hughes addressed the police sergeant's job description. Chairman Stewart indicated she didn't have a copy to look at and couldn't respond. She indicated she would get a copy of this job description from Chief Randall. Chairman Hughes indicated his copy of the job description for the police sergeant clearly indicates that position is supervisory and therefore cannot be in the union. Chairman Stewart said the State SEIU Local 1984 told the Board of Select the sergeant could be in the union.

Chairman Hughes asked who asked the police officers to join the union and if it had been in writing. Chairman Stewart indicated she didn't know and that she had not seen a letter from the police asking to be a part of the union.

Chairman Stewart made motion to adjourn and go out of non-public. Electric Commissioner Chair Hughes reminded Chairman Stewart to go out of non-public the Select Board needed a roll call vote, rather than voice vote. To the Electric Commissioner's best knowledge, a roll call vote to come out of non-public was not taken. The Electric Commissioners' did not hear any indication the Select Board's meeting minutes would be sealed.

The Electric Commissioners concluded their meeting with the Water/Sewer Commissioners and the Select Board at 9:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bobbi Hoerter  
Ashland Electric Commission