

# Memo

**To:** Board of Selectmen  
**From:** Paul Branscombe  
**Cc:** Pat Crowell, File  
**Date:** April 7, 2014  
**Subject:** Town Administrator's Report

- After the Town elections on March 11<sup>th</sup> the new five person BOS met on the 17<sup>th</sup> to re-organize and nominate ex-officio Board members to various Board/Committees in Town. Norman DeWolfe was voted as Chair and Phil Preston as Vice-Chair.
- BOS work sessions have been changed from the second Wednesday of the month in the mornings at the Town office to the third Monday in the evenings at the School Library. This work session begins at 7:00 pm.
- The BOS formed a Financial Sub-Committee consisting of Selectmen Newton and Felton to prepare an analysis of projections/expenditures resulting from the Default budget and report back to the full Board.
- On March 19<sup>th</sup> the CIP committee kicked off the 2014 year with a critical meeting held at the Fire Station for Local Government Officials and Department Heads to explain the simplified work sheet, receive an update of the ten year plan and to get a clear understanding of the expectations. A schedule of the dates for the various Departments to meet with the CIP committee was handed out.
- On March 24<sup>th</sup> the TA and Selectmen DeWolfe, Newton, Stewart and Preston met with Cathy Conway from Northern Community Investment Corporation (NCIC). Cathy is responsible for ED in investment in Coos, Carroll and Grafton Counties. She came to Ashland to determine if NCIC could be of help in our community. She may be able to assist with the funding of improvements to the Town Hall.
- On March 28<sup>th</sup> the TA joined Selectmen Stewart at the audit of Buskey's Auto, the Auto Recycling Center on Main Street aka a Junkyard for which Buskey is only one of 13 junkyard licenses awarded in the State of NH. Stewart and Branscombe were also shown the warehouse on Winter Street where tires, wheels, batteries and fluids are stored. The BOS signed the License which was delivered to Buskey's by the TA on March 31<sup>st</sup>.

Kids Night Out on March 28<sup>th</sup> was well attended with twenty eight children participating. The next and last program for the school year is scheduled to be held on Friday April 18<sup>th</sup> from 6 pm to 8:30 pm. The fee is \$5 per child. Call the P& R Director on 968-9209 to register. The 2014 Summer Camp registration season began on April 1<sup>st</sup> for Ashland residents only and General registration starts on May 1<sup>st</sup>. Registration packets will be available at the Town Office, the Elementary School, the Town Library and the Booster Club. There is also online pre-registration available on the Town website however registering on line is not complete until the registration forms are turned in at the Town office.

- The Public Works Department received several compliments for the way they handled the difficult winter keeping open our roads and sidewalks. The PWD hauled sand, Plowed, salted and sanded roads and sidewalks and patched holes. The Town Mechanic handled Town vehicle inspections and at the Transfer Station cardboard was shipped out.
  - In the Police Department the total number of incidents, arrests and traffic citations for the month of March was 159 down from 198 in February. Chief Randall has informed the Town office that the Drug Take Back Initiative will take place at the Ashland Police Station on Saturday April 26 from 10 am to 2 pm. The Chief also mentioned that the PD has noticed an increase in outside activities, particularly bike traffic now that the better weather has arrived. The Department would like to remind people to know the rules of the road and if you are going to use your bike at night it must be equipped with a front white light, a rear red light and proper reflectors. Foot traffic is also on the rise and pedestrians are reminded to use the sidewalks and crosswalks. Lastly dog registrations are due April 30<sup>th</sup> after which date the Town will be processing the civil forfeiture paper work for the PD to serve on those late registrants which will add an additional \$25.00 to the cost of the dog license.
  - The FD responded to 30 emergency calls in March consisting of 15 medical calls, 5 motor vehicle accidents, 1 service call and 9 fire calls. Of the 9 fire calls 3 were for multiple alarm fires in other communities.
  - The Treasurer informed the TA that we have \$673,521.70 available in the bank.
  - Please note the office of the Town Clerk/Tax Collector will be closed on April 17<sup>th</sup> as the TC/TC will be at a training work shop.
- Respectfully submitted