

New Ashford Select Board Meeting
June 6, 2016

Board Present: Jason Jayko (chair), Mark Phelps, Ken McInerney

Others Present: Keith LaCasse, Lori Jayko

Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Reorganize Board: Mark Phelps nominated Jason Jayko as Chair, seconded by Ken McInerney. Mark nominated Ken as Vice Chair, seconded by Jason.
2. Greylock Road: Update from Ken McInerney. He spoke with three state approved botanists. Emily Stockman from Adams will meet with Ken on Friday, June 10, and drive Greylock Road to determine if there is possible presence of a rare plant species that will warrant further observation. If necessary, Ken will get a quote from one or two botanists and will bring it before the conservation commission.
3. Broadband: Update from Jason who attended the last Wired West meeting. Wired West has had many staffing changes. Monica Webb resigned as the chair of Wired West. Jim Drawe is the Interim Chair. The \$49 fee that was originally estimated as a monthly cost for services will likely be higher, at least \$55 and up. Some smaller towns are concerned that the bigger towns won't want to "carry them along". The 3% fee to cover depreciation is being put back to the towns and removed from the model. The next meeting is in New Ashford on June 25. The Board received a letter from the Town of Colrain stating that they are leaving Wired West. There will be a meeting with Bill Ennen from the MBI and the Select Board on June 14 at the New Ashford Town Hall to get information on what MBI can offer and in what time frame. MBI sent a readiness request form.
4. Road Commissioner: Keith there are some rivulets on Greylock Road after the recent rain and a minor one on Mallery Road. Overall, the roads are in good shape. Keith will start dispersing the milling material. Tri-town expects to start work in July on the Mallery Road paving project and will give a more specific date soon.
New Ashford is on the list, after Becket, for the mower to mow the sides of the roads.
The tree work will commence at the end of the week of June 6th, including getting the brush off Beach Hill and Mallery Road.

Public Comment and any other subjects for consideration:

Mark Phelps received an email from the Regional Planning Commission about proposed legislation changes that would allow, by right, for eight multifamily units per acre and thus leaving more open space. Ben Downing reached out to the Regional Planning Commission for feedback and Mark would like the board to give feedback to Downing from the town. The legislation makes it easy to create multifamily housing but doesn't provide for businesses. Mark will contact Ben Downing's office in Boston, with approval from the Board. These changes in the legislation would require towns to change zoning bylaws.
Lori Jayko gave Nathan Smith her key for play rehearsals.

Jason – The state system for pistol permits is going fully electronic and the current police chief, Richard Clermont, he has stated that he is not interested in using the online system. Appointments will be made at the next meeting.

Elections – no one was notified of the results of the town elections and it was not in the newspaper.

Keith LaCasse will inquire with the Berkshire Purchasing Group about the price of heating oil this year. Ken will get a quote from West Oil. Last year the town locked in with West Oil. Jason and Lori Jayko attended a DLS workshop for financial officers.

Sign warrant. Warrant was reviewed and signed.

Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes for May 16, 2016. On a motion by Mark Phelps, seconded by Ken McInerney, the minutes were approved.

Meeting with MBI June 14, 2016 at 2:00.

Next meeting June 20, 2016 at 6:30.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05