

Select Board Meeting
September 19, 2016

Board Present: Jason Jayko (chair), Mark Phelps, Ken McInerney
Others Present: Don Torrico, Keith LaCasse, Lori Jayko, Chuck Morrone, Tony Mazzucco, Everett Martin

Meeting opened at 7:01

1. Building Inspector – Don Torrico, Building Inspector, and Tony Mazzucco, Adams Town Administrator, attended to discuss the building permit fee schedule. Don addressed the board's concerns about fees being based on construction costs instead of square footage. Most towns charge per estimated value of the project.

Adams is looking into a regionalization grant from the state's community compact program to get software to use the online building permit system. Adams invited New Ashford and other small towns in Northern Berkshire County to join in the grant. The first submission deadline is October 15 and another is in January. What would be our town's cost per year? Can we work the cost of software into the permit fees?

There was discussion about the adoption of the ticketing process by the town. It lets building and fire officials issue tickets, and is most helpful when there are issues of noncompliance. The process begins as a warning. If there still isn't compliance, fees start at \$100, and increase with each subsequent ticket to \$500 and then \$1000. Fees from tickets are paid to the town into a separate fund for education and training for the building and fire officials. It's a consumer protection law, MGL 148 A.

MGL 40 sec 21D allows the town to fine for zoning violations. The town has already adopted it and it is in the by-laws.

The Town of Adams will collect future building permit fees and pay the building inspector accordingly.

The tent permit fee applies to tents that are over 700 square feet.

The building permit fee schedule will be on the agenda for the next meeting. The Board thanked Don and Tony for attending.

2. Road Commissioner – Keith LaCasse, will submit the chap 90 reimbursement information for the Mallery Road paving project on 9/20.

Smith Road will continue to deteriorate without repairs. Keith can change the scope of the project so it will cost less to avoid the need to go out to bid by adding 1 ½ inches rather than 3 inches. For a season it would be fine, then in spring he could finish the road with an overlay to bring it up higher. The board would like to fix the road completely.

There are sixteen culverts in need of cleaning. Can the Sherriff's Department's community service program participants clean the throats of the culverts with weed whackers and then with shovels and rakes? Ken will contact the sheriff. The rest of the work would be under \$10,000.

The town will get the mower for the sides of the roads after it goes to Becket.

Ken expects the signed contract in the next week for Greylock Road. All the paperwork has been submitted. The botanist work is done, waiting on the final report.

The roads look good after the recent rains.

There is still a lot of wood on the sides of the roads.

Lori J will return the recent MMA survey estimating how much money the town needs to maintain the roads.

Keith ordered two signs, "Slow, Children at Play", to put on Ingraham Road.

3. Greylock Road – already covered.

4. MBI/WW Update – There a Wired West meeting the first weekend in October.

Jason submitted paper work to MBI.

The application process for the telephone pole bond has been started.

5. Council on Aging – Mark will follow up with Bill O’Grady about putting together the questionnaire to determine the COA services town elders might be interested in.

Public Comment and any other subjects for consideration.

Gus reported that in past years the board has given small commercial tax exemption to businesses with less than 10 employees, taking 10% off the value. It only raises the commercial value on larger businesses. Mark made a motion to adopt the exemption for FY17, seconded by Ken.

Chuck – there is a cabinet falling apart in the basement of the Old Schoolhouse. The desk refinisher will give a \$150 credit towards the desk refinishing for the cabinet. The Board approved. Chuck gave a set of keys to the Old Schoolhouse to the Board.

Stephen DeMyer has requested a raise for his town custodian work. \$12/hr is the town labor rate set by a previous board. The election workers get the same rate. The budget has already been set for FY 17.

The town received a \$3,000 donation from Mary Jane Zimmerman to refinish the desks from the Old Schoolhouse.

There are continuing problems with ATV’s in the cemetery and on private property. The caution tape and sign were removed from the cemetery and left at the Town Hall. The Select Board has reviewed the photos of the ATV’s for trespassing at the cemetery and the photos are being reviewed by the appropriate authorities.

Approve minutes from the September 6, 2016 on a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken the minutes were approved.

Next Meeting October 6, 2016 at 6:30. The second meeting in October will be the 24th.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00