

New Ashford Select Board Meeting  
September 6, 2016

Board Present: Jason Jayko (chair), Ken McInerney, Mark Phelps  
Others Present: Keith LaCasse, Lori Jayko, Wayne Buckley, Chuck Morrone

Meeting opened at 6:32

1. Fire Department – Wayne Buckley would like the Select Board to send a thank you letter to the town of Richmond for allowing their Fire Department to donate over 2,100 feet of supply line to the New Ashford Fire Department.

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant opens October 11<sup>th</sup>. The Fire Department will be reapplying for a new tanker.

2. Building Inspector (fee schedule) – Don Torrico, Building Inspector, will attend the next Select Board meeting. The town has requested invoices for inspections, but has not received any.

3. Road Commissioner – Keith LaCasse has the bill from Tri-Town for the Mallery/Greylock Road project. He needs a copy of the check for reimbursement from Chapter 90 funds. Part of Smith Road is falling apart and needs more work than just patching. Keith got estimates to fix that section of road. It is 850 feet by 18 feet wide and needs to be raised 3 inches by the silage pits to keep run-off off the road. Palmer and Lane are not interested in the job, as it is too small. Tri-town estimates it would cost \$21,700 and Condron \$32,500.

Tri-town will do the Greylock Road work in two weeks. It will be paid for by the grant for Greylock Road. Ken is in communication with Jaqueline Furtado from the Executive Office of Housing and Development, and is finishing the required paperwork.

Keith finished cleaning the edges of Mallery road.

Keith made a list of the culverts that need cleaning. He will e-mail it to the board.

The shared mowing machine for the sides of the roads is broken. Once fixed, it's going to Hancock, then to Becket. Keith requested that it come here on the way to Becket.

The crack sealing company has not contacted Keith yet.

4. Trees – Chuck Morrone, Tree Warden, reported that there is a lot of wood on the sides of Mallery, Beach Hill, and Ingraham roads if anyone wants it. The Board thanked Chuck for his work.

The desks from the old schoolhouse will be refinished in batches by a refinisher from East Street in Pittsfield. It will cost \$3,000. There is question of the amount of money left in the schoolhouse account from the recap sheet. Ken will talk to Michelle Singer, accountant, for a review of the account.

Chuck would like to run electricity to the old schoolhouse under the road through the culvert.

The board approves.

5. Greylock Road - Emily Stockman, botanist, has surveyed twice. She has not completed her report yet.

Someone has been cutting wood on the sides of the road.

6. Appointments (Board of Registrars) – Jason contacted Janet Pumphrey about the proposed Board of Registrars members being unenrolled, instead of having one Democrat and one Republican. She passed this on to the Boston office and has not heard back from them yet. The Board will make appointments due to the impending primaries. On a motion by Jason, Sharon Morrone, Carlanne Rancourt, and Jacqueline Trottier were appointed to the Board of Registrars, seconded by Mark.

7. Early Voting – Jason contacted Lori Trottier, Town Clerk. She will have Early Voting from 7-10am on October 29th. \$250 will be received from the state for early voting. The Board will follow up with Lori about where the early ballots are secured.

8. MBI/WW Update – Jason finished the document for Todd Corcoran from MBI. Mark talked with a representative from Charter. Charter is currently setting up service to all of Lanesboro, which will be covered with a hybrid fiber optic coax cable. He said the businesses in towns can get the fiber optics. Charter said they are not ready to talk to the Select Board but are working with engineers and MBI. Charter would own and control the cable network. Jason will contact Paul Seiloff, town administrator in Lanesboro.

There will be a Wired West meeting this month.

Ken – Does Todd want us to file the Verizon and Eversource permits? Jason will check on this.

9. Council on Aging – Mark talked to Lanesboro and Williamstown. Paul Seiloff from Lanesboro proposed that New Ashford give \$7,000 to Lanesboro (\$5,000 from the grant and \$2,000 town money) and appoint them our Council On Aging. In return, they would provide transportation one day a week, two meals a week, a quarterly newsletter and New Ashford elders could attend all Lanesboro COA activities. The Lanesboro COA's current budget is \$9,000 for the van, \$24,000 for drivers, Executive Director's Salary of \$16-17,000 a year, and a \$2,000 expense account. They currently provide meals for 20-22 people. Brian O'Grady from the COA in Williamstown reports that they have a van running five days a week (one day is grocery store), however, the van rarely goes to Pittsfield. He suggested determining the demand for services in the town, per an outreach person. He recommended getting a young person involved to develop a survey of needs. Williamstown's COA has a \$230,000 budget. Last year, they provided services for 13,000 people. Could transportation be done through Dufour with the grant? Would a high schooler do this for volunteer work? We could also ask Kerry Lahey, outreach worker.

Public Comment and any other subjects for consideration:

Chuck asked if there was a dirt bike race in town, it was very noisy. It was the JDay race in Lanesboro, sponsored by The Hoosac Valley Motorcycle Club.

The Tax Classification Hearing will be September 19 at 6:30, followed by the Select Board meeting.

Warrant was reviewed and signed.

Approve minutes from August 15, 2016. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes were approved.

Next Meeting September 19, 2016 with Tax Classification Hearing at 6:30.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50