

New Ashford Select Board Meeting
April 4, 2016

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

Meeting opened at 6:31

1. Building Commissioner: Don Torrico is the new Building Commissioner for the town of Adams. If Don is appointed as the New Ashford Building Commissioner, permit fees will be sent to the town of New Ashford and paid out of the revolving fund. There is an online permit system, which has an annual fee and a one-time start-up fee, if that's something the town would like to consider. Don will review the fee schedule. Don received plans for new construction on Beach Hill Road. Mark Phelps made a motion to appoint Don Torrico as the Building Commissioner for New Ashford, seconded by Ken McInerney. He will get sworn in by the town clerk. (Given key #16).

2. Fire Department: Wayne Buckley, Fire Chief, reported on the status of the 911 service discussion with Williamstown. Williamstown cannot accommodate the New Ashford Fire Department for dispatch without upgrading equipment. To switch, New Ashford would need to upgrade radio equipment and repeaters. There could be costly upgrade fees on top of the annual fees. Wayne will do further research. The sheriff's fee for 911 service is over \$7,000. The PPE grant has been sent to peer review. No status on the tanker grant yet, however it has not been rejected.

3. Road Commissioner: Keith LaCasse, Road Commissioner, there was a power outage on March 28, due to trees down on Mallery Road. The fire department assisted. Two poles were down and the electric company had to replace them.

Plowed and salted April 4.

Keith talked to the person cutting trees on Roys Road about not going around the blocks and not cutting down trees that are on town property.

Keith looked at Greylock Road from first gate to the top, 15,535 feet. It needs 1,450 feet of guardrail which includes from the bottom up (26 end sections). Quote from Commonwealth Guardrails \$69,542.50. This does not include removal of old guardrails. There are a lot of trees broken off into the road, Keith removed a couple of small ones. There are sections of the road that should be widened. Keith estimates that 50 trees would need to be removed to do that.

Keith obtained a quote from Lane Construction for the delivered price of 6,900 tons of 6 inch gravel base at \$89,700, \$13 a ton. Ken McInerney has made a draft RFP for the Greylock Road grant. Ken had a teleconference with Erica Krueter on March 28, 2016 for his monthly check-in. Keith talked to Kathy Stevens – the road needs to be wide enough for the biggest piece of EMS equipment that might use the road. Bauer Road is 5,429 feet long. Keith will figure out a price for gravel for Bauer Road.

Keith received paperwork in the mail about a predisaster mitigation grant and gave it to the board to review.

Jason received a letter from MASSDOT about Chapter 90 funds being \$43,646 for FY 17. It also contained information about the Complete Streets Program, a municipal official needs to attend training as a prerequisite to involvement with the program. This program may be geared more towards communities that have new road development.

We have \$172,057.96 currently available in our Chapter 90 account.

4. Budget: Update to school budget - \$423,929. Tuition agreement with Lanesboro has been agreed upon at a 3% increase. The budget was reviewed. \$419,358 free cash certified this year, \$341,173 the prior year. Everett Martin, assessor, will be invited to the next meeting.

5. Broadband: Ken attended the last Wired West meeting. Wired West would like the Select Board to endorse a letter to Governor Baker to address the \$18 million dollars that the state has put on hold – encouraging him to lift the pause on the program, to have a written plan by June 30, and to receive a written response. Mark made the motion to approve the letter and move it forward, as amended, seconded by Jason and approved by all. Ken will give an update, via e-mail, to the town.

6. Public Comment and other subjects for consideration – Mark will contact Mark Cappadona for follow-up on Capitol Power.

Mark reported that beavers have dammed up water under the bridge on Route 7. The bridge is in Lanesboro, but the water is backing up into New Ashford. Keith will call Kathy Stevens to see if the state will take care of it.

Sign warrant. Warrant was reviewed and signed.

Approve Select Board minutes from March 21, 2016. On a motion by Ken McInerney, seconded by Mark Phelps, the minutes were approved.

Next meeting April 19, 2016 at 6:30.

Adjourned at 9:00