

New Ashford Select Board Meeting
January 19, 2016

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

Others Present: Tony Mazzucco, Richard George, Art Johnson, Keith LaCasse, Richard Demyer, Lori Jayko

Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Board of Health – Art Johnson provided photographs of evidence of a rat problem at 322 Route 7. Art contacted the owner of the property in October. He then received a letter in November from the state Attorney General, Paul Halfmann. On January 5, 2016, Art received a letter to the Board of Health requesting a formal order to correct. The correction order was filled out citing regulation 410.831 A Dwellings unfit for human habitation and regulation 410.600 storage of garbage and rubbish. The owner was given ten days after issuance to correct the problem. The order was sent certified to the owner on 1/13/2016. Ken will trace the letter to determine when the owner picked up the letter. (tracking number - 7015 1520 0001 8809 6366) Course of action – condemn the building if the problem is not taken care of. The board thanked Art for his work on this.

2. Building Inspector – Tony Mazzucco, Town Administrator from Adams – Mark invited him to the meeting after reading an article in the newspaper about Adams also looking for a building inspector.

Tony – Adams is looking for a new building commissioner and is interested in partnering with smaller towns. Adams would be able to provide service to New Ashford.

Benefits for New Ashford: not having to recruit a building commissioner, residents would have access to a full time office.

Benefit for Adams: increased revenue, additional compensation to the building inspector.

It could operate the same way it does now financially, such as the inspector being paid per permit.

Permit fees would have to be looked at between the towns for continuity. Large projects would need to be negotiated. Commercial property inspections could be done.

The building inspector enforces the zoning bylaws.

Tony will make a draft agreement for the board and town counsel.

The permitting process is done online; however, they still allow paper permits.

Adams may also be able to provide an administrative police chief for pistol permitting. Tony will look into it.

3. Road Commissioner – Keith LaCasse, took down a tree on Ingraham Road. He is working on an inventory for the MASS DOT project list.

The bridge on the north end of Roys Road needs new handrails. Paving the top would help prevent deterioration. The bridge is classified as a 6 right now by the state. The handrails are 4 X 6 pieces of wood. They can be replaced in the spring.

So far, Keith has plowed three times. Jason provided excerpts from the town bylaws pertaining to parking on the road in general and during snow removal.

Someone is cutting ash trees on Greylock Road.

Mallery Road paving bid – Keith recommends changing the writing to advertise having Mallery Road milled down 3 inches with those millings being placed near Greylock Road, before they are placed on Greylock Road.

4. Eversource – power outage. Mark would like to send a letter to the Department of Public Utilities that the response to the power outage was unacceptable. Route 7 was closed for approximately six hours at great expense to the town of Lanesboro.

5. Beach Hill Concerns with Logging – Jason contacted town counsel, who passed the information on to Boston. Options include weight limits for the road, including taking out a bond. Keith will ask the state about the requirements for posting weight limits.

6. Budget – at the next meeting the budget will be reviewed. Ken will e-mail the board chairs for their budget proposals.

7. Wired West/MBI – Jason attended the Wired West meeting on the 9th. There is still tension between Wired West and MBI. MBI sent out an RFP at the end of December requiring a response by January 15, MBI extended the deadline to the 29th because not everyone received the RFP. The RFP would give MBI more control over the project.

8. Website Updates – E-mail storage – Jason has hit his e-mail storage quota. He is looking at how much it would cost to increase storage capacity or for a different host and migrating the e-mail over.

Public Comment: Dick Demyer, Veteran's Service Officer, purchased a new computer. Lori J. called the Veteran's Office from the state to request assistance with getting veteran's payments reimbursed. The state e-mailed back about meeting in February with the VSO providing paper documentation.

Mark – received an e-mail from MMA about making public records available. He would like to contact Carriddi's and Downing's offices about fines being incurred from towns that do not have full time employees.

Ken – insuring the old schoolhouse. The structure is not insured. Ken called the insurance company back, and sent pictures in. It will now cost \$141 a year to insure. The board would like this to be added to the insurance asap. Mark made a motion to add the old school house to the insurance policy, seconded by Jason. Ken will send in the information.

Jason will e-mail Wayne Buckley to see what the plan is if the grant for the fire tanker truck is not approved.

Minutes – The minutes from January 4, 2016 were approved on a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken.

Warrant – the warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next Meeting February 1, 2016 at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 8:24