

New Ashford Select Board Meeting
New Ashford Town Hall
June 4, 2018

Board Present: Jason Jayko (chair), Ken McInerney, Mark Phelps
Others Present: Sherry Youngkin, Frank Youngkin, Stephen Jayko, Chuck Morrone, Keith Lacasse, Lori Jayko
Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Approve the minutes from 5/24/2018. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes from the 5/24/2018 Select Board meeting were approved.

2. Public Comment: Frank Youngkin asked for an update on the internet project and the plan for pothole repair. Both items will be covered later in the meeting.

Chuck gave the Board the invoice for tree work to finish out FY 18's budget. He thanked Keith Lacasse for removing a tree at the cemetery, that there was no money left in the budget for. Emergency Management Director, Max Lacasse, will call Eversource with a list of trees near the power lines that need to be removed or trimmed. Ken called Eversource on 5/24 about the cherry trees on Mallery Road and has not heard back. The Board thanked Chuck for his Tree Warden work.

3. Assessor: Williamstown sent a draft inter-municipal agreement for assessing services. Jason talked to Assessor, Gus Martin, about the transition. The Assessor from Williamstown, Bill Barkin, would like to meet with Gus and the Board. Jason will call Bill and schedule a time. Williamstown is transitioning to the Patriot System and there is space in their office for the laptop. Jason sent the draft inter-municipal agreement to legal counsel. The Board reviewed the draft agreement and made amendments to Section V to add that New Ashford has no liability for benefits. In Section VIII, they add the word representative after employees. They corrected the address. The assessor expense account and salary are \$7,500 which will be paid to Williamstown in FY19, and we will continue to pay for our own Patriot software. Jason will modify the document and send it back to Jason Hoch, Town Manager, in Williamstown.

4. Road Commissioner: Keith Lacasse opened Greylock Road and added a load of material to fix the wash-out. Travis, from DCR, opened the upper gate. The road needs grading in spots and Bauer Road needs a load or two of fill that will cost about \$3,500. The Board would like Keith to do this. The lower part of Greylock Road (where the millings are) is rough. The best way to fix it is to add screened millings and compact them. That will cost around \$20 a ton and require between 2-3 truck loads, or 60 tons, for a cost of \$1,200 plus labor and equipment. Ingraham road needs to be graded, but likely does not need material. It will cost around \$8,000 to do Greylock, Bauer, and Ingraham roads. A property lot sold on Ingraham Road and the gate will need to be moved, possibly requiring an added a turn around on the road. Keith added fill and graded the north end of Roys Road. Keith asked DCR to blow the leaves off Greylock Road. Lori Trottier and Keith are meeting this week to discuss the STRAP grant. We did not get the grant for the culvert.

Insurance will not cover the repairs for the Salt Shed. Keith recommends at least taking care of the drainage. A concrete block on the footing on the outside could help hold the panels in place.

There is enough money in the Winter Roads account to cover the Salt Shed repairs. Keith will start work on 6/7 by bulldozing the material out to relieve the pressure on the upper side.

5. Building Inspector: Jason is waiting for more detail on outstanding permits from Building Inspector, Don Torrico.

6. Town Hall Updates: The two Community Compact grants were approved for a total of \$19,000 for the generator and \$13,000 for the furnaces. Jason signed the contract and got it notarized. The contracts were mailed in to the state, they will send back signed copies and cut the checks within 45 days. There is a two-year time limit to get the project done. The money awarded will allow for propane furnaces. Propane is around \$2.19 this year. Once the grant money is received, the work can be started. Jason will call H.A. George and will also check with the state about what happens with grant money not spent. Ken will call Winn Frye about the location of the Town Hall's septic system.

7. Colonial Power: Verde would not come down in price so Colonial is trying to get the supplier for Pittsfield.

8. Broadband: Jason will attend the Wired West meeting on 6/6. Whip City will give a recommendation of a contractor for the bid. The low bidder was \$161,000. Whip City asked the bidder to add their insurance on, as we do not have PURMA. Jason talked to PURMA and the costs are \$1,300 a year for membership, and \$11,000-\$13,000 a year for the insurance. Whip City is checking with Alford to see what their PURMA costs are. Princeton had three huts that cost between \$16,000 - \$18,000, whereas a new hut was estimated at \$50,000. Jason learned that Princeton's were less expensive because they are made out of very thin steel. Whip City recommended making the equipment room in the Town Hall and they highly recommend not using the basement, due to moisture. We would need one rack that may fit in the Assessor's office or by combining the Assessor's office and the old bathroom. It would need to be soundproofed. Jason will draw up a scope of work and get estimates from a contractor and check requirements with the building inspector. Verizon has done their survey in the town. Eversource is in the process. Once the contract is determined, the Drop Policy will be formed.

9. Any Other Unforeseen Business: Wired West dues were optional this year, considered a donation. We did not pay them. Mark reported that Tom Matuszko wrote a nice letter about being the new director of the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. His replacement will be strong in inter-municipal agreements.

10. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting June 20 at 6:30.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52, on a motion by Ken.