

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting
New Ashford Town Hall
May 20, 2019

Board Present: Jason Jayko (Chair), Ken McInerney (MLP Manager), Mark Phelps
Others Present: Richard Demyer, Chuck Morrone, Stephen Jayko, Keith Lacasse, Richard George, Lori Jayko

Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Approve minutes from 5/6 and 5/15: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes from the 5-6-2019 New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting were approved. The minutes from 5/15 will be approved at the next meeting.

2. Public Comment: Richard Demyer will put flags in the cemetery at the veterans' graves. Chuck Morrone got keys from Mr. Kelly for the cabinets at the Town Hall and two metal lockers downstairs. He gave the keys to the board.

Chuck, as chair of the Historical Commission, was contacted by the Northern Berkshire Suffrage Coalition about the town's planning a celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of women's suffrage, with Phoebe Jordan's being the first woman that voted. The ballot box could be put in the Old Schoolhouse for an event. We will mention this at town meeting and see if anyone is interested in helping.

Plans were started for a field trip to the old schoolhouse, but no one has heard back from the group.

3. Building Inspector Update: Jason gave the new Building Inspector, Gerald Garner, a key to the town hall and updated the contact information on the town website. Gerald has been to the Springs motel, as someone is interested in buying it. Gerald said that the Board of Health can issue a letter of condemnation to the Springs, due to the water issue. The board reviewed the letter that the DEP sent to the Board of Health. Richard George, Board of Health Chair, will contact Gerald for guidance.

4. Road Commissioner: Keith Lacasse, opened the roads that were closed for the winter. He will grade them when the weather is dry. On advice from the DOT, Keith added 25% to the Beach Hill Road project for a total of \$220,000, giving a cushion of \$11,000 in the Chapter 90 account. This includes a total reclamation of the road at full depth (grinding everything down a foot and mixing it together with calcium), adding an inch and half of binder, tack coat, and an inch and a half on top. Black top is \$85 - \$90 a yard. Three culverts will be replaced before the project begins and all culverts will be marked. The Board signed the forms for DOT approval of the project. Keith will get the accountant's signature, and then submit it to the DOT.

Keith turned in the information about the alternate crack sealant. The state uses cold mix high performance patch and they think it works well.

There is a section on Greylock Road where the material is coarse. When the road dries, Keith will add material to the rough spots. A 24-inch culvert on Bauer Road is plugged and will be replaced with a 30-inch or 36-inch culvert. The other culvert on Bauer Road is partially plugged, but can likely be cleaned out.

5. Assessor Update: Jason will image the assessor's laptop and will work with Patriot to transfer the information to the new laptop. The assessing agreement with Williamstown needs to be finalized and signed.

6. Broadband: Sertex is running the strand lines in town. JL Raymakers is doing the underground work on Mallery Road and Route 7. The permit from the DOT was signed today. They crossed Mallery Road in one spot. Jason will get a status update on 5/21. Eversource returned around \$14,000 for overpayment for the make ready work. We will deposit this into the broadband grant account. Whip City will do the outside connection at the Town Hall on 5/21. The Town Hall should be completely connected in a week or two. The state police or sheriff's department will do the detail for the Route 7 work. There are 71 households committed for broadband service. The new addresses on Beach Hill Road were submitted to Whip City to get an estimated cost for drops for service.

7. Any other unforeseen business: Chuck Morrone, Tree Warden, will get several trees removed before the end of the fiscal year. Chuck will look at a tree halfway up Roys Road, a snapped off limb hanging on Smith Road, a tree at the base of Greylock Road, two maple trees between the town hall and Rancourts', the trees between the town hall and the fire station, a tree at the cemetery and an ash tree at the bottom of Beach Hill Road. If there are other tree concerns, let Chuck know. Chuck gave Mark permission to take down the trees on Smith Road that are in the right of way.

Pete Rancourt has mowed the lawn at the Old Schoolhouse since the spring of 2000, on the advice of legal counsel. Jason will contact the town attorney to work towards the town's getting the deed to the school house property. Richard Demyer will check his records from 2000 to see if he has anything related.

Richard Demyer needs a conflict of interest form and could not get one from the town clerk. The board will look into it.

Susan Purser sent the town a packet against the legislation for the Mohawk Trails Woodland Partnership. The board reviewed the letter.

Mark talked to Tom Matuszko, from MTWP and is waiting to get some information. North Adams joined the MTWP.

Keith will get salt with the funds left in the Winter Roads account.

8. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting June 3, 2019 at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 7:42