

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting  
New Ashford Town Hall  
June 17, 2019

Board Present: Jason Jayko (Chair), Ken McInerney (MLP Manager), Mark Phelps  
Others Present: Keith Lacasse, Richard George, Lori Jayko, Stephen Jayko, Chuck Morrone  
Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Approve minutes from 5/15 and 6/3: On a motion by Ken, seconded by Jason, the minutes from the 5/15/2019 Select Board/MLP Meeting were approved. Mark abstained. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes from the 6/3/2019 Select Board/MLP Meeting were approved. Ken abstained.

2. Public Comment: The owner of the Springs Motel called Richard George, Chair of Board of Health, and said that he has tested the water at The Springs and it is fine. Housatonic sent Richard the results of the water testing, which the board reviewed. Richard called the lab to confirm that the lab is collecting the water sample themselves, and he requested a monthly e-mail of the results. The Board asked Richard to call the DEP to see if they have approved the water tests. Richard would like to do a joint inspection of the motel with the Building Inspector and the Fire Department.

Chuck Morrone suggested that a fund be established for the care and maintenance of the Old Schoolhouse. A stabilization fund could be set up at the Annual Town Meeting next year.

3. Reorganize Board: Mark nominated Jason as chair, seconded by Ken. Mark nominated Ken as vice chair, seconded by Jason.

4. Road Commissioner: The beam is up at the salt shed. Keith placed blocks to deter people from driving through the cemetery. He ordered 200 tons of road salt. Condrion and Galusha have graders available, however both require an operator with them. PLT has one for rent. Keith will try to get his own grader ready. He will have material delivered for Ingraham Road for grading. He will take care of the tree list that the Tree Warden gave him. Eversoure should be notified of an ash tree near the lines across from 78 Mallery Road. The MASS DOT approved the Beach Hill Road project, using Chapter 90 funds. Bid opening for the project will be July 10 at 5:00. There is not enough time left in the fiscal year to get Conservation Commission approval to dredge the pond on Mallery and Cemetery Roads to create better water flow for the Fire Department. There's \$860.74 in a FEMA account that could be used towards a dry hydrant.

5. Legal Counsel: The founder of Kopelman and Paige left the group for a smaller municipal firm and that he would like the town to consider using. The Board decided it is too close to the end of the fiscal year to change legal counsel.

6. Assessor/Patriot Update: Jason worked with Patriot for several days to convert the database from the old laptop to the new one. Jason asked the Tax Collector to sign in to Collect Pro and make sure it's working correctly. Patriot will copy the database and upload it to their Web Pro to make the property cards available online viewing. Chris Lamarre, Assessor from Williamstown, and Jason are meeting on June 20<sup>th</sup> at noon. Williamstown has not received the assessing contract back from the DOR. The assessor appointment will be on hold until the 6/25 meeting.

7. Appointments: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Michelle Singer was appointed as Accountant for three years. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Kurt Singer was appointed as Animal Control Officer for one year. The appointment for the Assessor will be made at the 6/25 meeting. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Kevin Flicker was appointed as the Alternate for the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission for one year. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Sharon Morrone, Jacqueline Trottier, and Carlanne Rancourt were appointed to the Board of Registrars for one year. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Kurt Singer was appointed to the Chief of Police for three years. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, Ken McInerney was appointed to the Conservation Commission for three years. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Stephen Jayko was appointed to the Conservation Commission for three years. Jason abstained. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Richard George was appointed as Constable for three years. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Tamara Leminen and Leo Mazzeo were appointed to the Cultural Council of Northern Berkshire for one year. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Mike Lescarbeau was appointed as Electrical Inspector for one year. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Max Lacasse was appointed as Emergency Management Director for one year. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Pete Rancourt and Steve Jennings were appointed as Fence Viewers for one year. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Pete Rancourt and Steve Jennings were appointed as Field Viewers for one year. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Walker Haig was appointed as the Gas Inspector and Brady Haig as the Alternate Gas Inspector for one year. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Marge Gigliotti was appointed to the Historical Commission for three years. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Keith Lacasse was appointed as the Highway Commissioner for one year. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, Ken McInerney was appointed as the Mount Greylock Advisory Representative for one year. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Steve Jennings was appointed as the Measurer of Wood and Bark for one year. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Keith Lacasse was appointed as the Moth Inspector for one year. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, Ken McInerney was appointed as the New Ashford MLP Manager for two years. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Walker Haig was appointed as the Plumbing Inspector and Brady Haig as the Alternate Plumbing Inspector for one year. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, the Chair of the Board of Selectmen was appointed as the Procurement Officer. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Joan Wilkinson was appointed as the Tax Collector for three years. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Kopelman and Paige was appointed as Town Counsel for one year. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Lori Jayko was appointed as Town Secretary for one year. Jason abstained. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Lori Jayko was appointed as Town Treasurer for three years. Jason abstained. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, Richard Demyer was appointed as the Veterans Services Officer for one year. On a motion by Ken, seconded by Jason, Bill Johnston was appointed as an Alternate to the Zoning Board of Appeals for two years.

There is an opening for the Mount Greylock Advisory Representative Alternate, two openings on the Historical Commission, two openings on the Conservation Commission and two openings for Constable. The board will send an e-mail to residents to see if anyone is interested in filling the open positions.

8. Broadband: Sertex is running fiber. Williamstown police provided road detail on a day the state police could not. Jason will get an update on 6/19 about installation of equipment at the Town Hall. John Leary advised that we are better off using a community anchor institution (CAI) than an alternate access point. He confirmed that other providers cannot use the CAI without permission. A benefit of the CAI, is remote troubleshooting if something happens to the fiber line. With an alternate access point, they would need to send a truck to assess the problem. Whip City has changed its policy concerning seasonal rates. Now residents can suspend service up to 120 days without a fee. After day 120, it will cost \$99 to reconnect. The MLP can also add a reconnect fee, but does not choose to do so at this time. There will be an e-mail sent out by the end of the month reminding people of the deadline to subscribe by to have the town cover the connection fees. Information about the seasonal rate will be included. Williamstown may be interested in connecting to the fiber to service from Route 2 south and to the Hancock line. There are 167 potential connections.

9. Any other unforeseen business: The Town Clerk sent an e-mail to the Board about a liquor license for a wedding event. The Board will contact the ABCC for guidance, review the bylaws, and add a time limit.

A public hearing, that was requested by Eversource for a new pole at 180 Beach Hill Road, will be held on July 10 at 5:00 PM. Lori J. will post the notice in the newspaper and notify the abutters.

There may be a conservation concern at 92/94 Beach Hill Road. The Conservation Commission only approved putting in a span over an intermittent stream. Matt Kelly said he can meet with the Planning Board.

Mark went to a logging seminar where they learned about a permanent DOT approved bridge that cost \$25,000. It was made out of steel on top and used 2X2X6 retaining wall blocks.

The Board discussed selling the generator downstairs. Chuck offered to list it online for \$400 and Mark offered to buy it for that price. Jason and Ken accepted Mark's offer.

Keith got a call from Dee Bronson about trash in Roys Road. The garbage company picked it up.

The Board of Health received a letter about the chickens at Bills Happy Chicken Farm on Mallery Road, expressing concerns about the number allowed, the odor, how close the coop is to the road, and potential well pollution. The Board of Health will send a letter to Mr. Kelly that the town has received complaints about his property.

10. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting June 25 at 5:00

Meeting adjourned at 8:16