

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting
New Ashford Town Hall
July 10, 2019

Board Present: Jason Jayko (Chair), Ken McInerney (MLP Manager), Mark Phelps
Others Present: Keith Lacasse, Lori Jayko, Lori Trottier, Alan Steinhoff, Tammy Steinhoff,
Richard George, Chuck Morrone, Jared Fadding, Katie Snyder-Murray, Stephen Jayko
Meeting opened at 5:11

1. Bid Openings: The Board opened and read aloud the three bids received for the Beech Hill Road paving project: Northeast paving at \$186,908.60, HMA Consulting Corp at \$169,905.00, and J H Maxymillian Inc at \$289,251.81. The bidders are all on the prequalified list. The Road Commissioner reviewed the bids. Ken made a motion to accept the lowest bidder of HMA Consulting Corp at \$169,905.00, seconded by Mark.

2. Approve minutes from 6/17 and 6/25: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes from the 6/17/2019 Select Board/MLP Meeting were approved as amended to include that CAI stands for Community Anchor Institution. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes from the 6/25/2019 Select Board/MLP Meeting were approved. Ken abstained.

3. Public Comment: Chuck Morrone noted that a for sale sign was placed on the lawn of the Old Schoolhouse and there was a craigslist ad that initially listed that property as being included in the sale. It has since been changed and the sign was moved. The Board is consulting with legal counsel.

The access road for Matt Kelly's property is being used as a driveway. The Planning Board has not been contacted. The Select Board will issue a cease and desist and will send it to legal counsel.

Alan Steinhoff would like an update on the Broadband project, which will be covered later in the meeting.

Richard George, Chair of the Board of Health, reported that the DEP has approved the water tests for the Springs Motel.

Jason left a message for the Building Inspector to inform him of the Springs Motel doing long-term rentals, as it is only approved for short-term rentals. He did not hear back. Jason also spoke with the DOR, as there are concerns that the Springs is not collecting room taxes. Jason will call the alternate building inspector and will reach out to the other Building Inspector who might be interested in the job as there are frustrations with the response time from the current inspector.

4. Road Commissioner: Keith Lacasse reported that the salt and sand, billed to FY 19, were delivered. He rented a grader and put down seven loads of material on Ingraham Road and stored another load in the Salt Shed. The new resident on Ingraham Road does not feel he should have to put a turnaround in for the snowplow, however what is there now is not adequate. Keith will decide how to address the potholes on Beach Hill Road, once he knows when the paving work will start. He completed most of the tree removal work from the list from the Tree Warden. There were stakes near the road on Beach Hill Road, but they have been removed. The new Tree Warden believes that trees felled by the town need to be chipped.

Ken will send an e-mail to the Berkshire Purchasing Group to confirm our requests were included in the bids before we pay the invoice.

5. Snow Plowing Contract: The Board reviewed the snow plowing contract. Ken made a motion to put the snow plowing contract out to bid, seconded by Mark. Bids will be opened at the last meeting in August.

6. Assessor Update: John Barrett contacted the DOR and Williamstown Town Administrator, Jason Hoch, in reference to the DOR's having the intermunicipal assessing contract for over a month with no response. Mark will call Jason Hoch for an update. All the information from Patriot has been converted to the new laptop.

7. Broadband: Sertex finished the fiber and the strands. They will start splicing at the poles by the 22nd of July. The bids went out for the next phase of the project, to build out to the houses. There are currently 78 subscribers taking service. Jason will send out an updated e-mail informing that if service is not signed up for by August 2, the homeowners will pay the installation fees. Jason is working with Whip City to have a meeting at the Town Hall showcasing the high-speed internet.

8. Any other unforeseen business: The Board thanked Chuck Morrone for painting the cupola on the Town Hall.

Mark reported that Williamstown voted to join the Mohawk Trails Woodland Partnership. There are now 12 towns signed up.

Keith turned in \$1,500 for the body off the pumper truck.

Keith will ask Dalton about our renting the mower for the sides of the road.

9. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting date July 22, 2019 @ 6:30.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55