

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting  
New Ashford Town Hall  
October 7, 2019

Board Present: Jason Jayko (Chair), Mark Phelps

Call-in: Ken McInerney (MLP Manager)

Others Present: Keith Lacasse, Richard George, Lori Jayko, Alan Steinhoff, Tammy Steinhoff, Ed Grosso, Cindy Grosso, Sherry Youngkin, Frank Youngkin

Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Approve minutes from 9/16: On a motion by Ken, seconded by Mark, the minutes from the 9/16/2019 New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting were approved.
2. Public Comment: The Flag Committee displayed the completed flag. Ken will contact the representative from Senator Hinds' office to arrange for a presentation at the State House. There is also a flag to display at the Town Hall. The Board thanked the Flag Committee for their work. There is an option for residents to purchase 2 X 3 foot flags for around \$30 each, with a minimum quantity of 25. Residents will be notified of the option by town e-mail. Sherry Youngkin asked if there is storage space at the Town Hall for the Council on Aging. There's room in the basement. Alan Steinhoff would like an update on drainage on Beach Hill Road and noted that recent rains caused water flowing over the culverts.
3. Lawn Mowing: Jason spoke with Pete Rancourt about the lawn mowing invoices being more than the budgeted amount for the year. Pete said he talked to a mower who says that he should be getting double what he is getting now. Jason suggested getting quotes from other lawn mowers for comparison. Keith Lacasse said lawn mowers in Pittsfield get \$60/hour.
4. Trick or Treat Hours: Mark made a motion for town Trick or Treat hours to be from 5:00PM – 7:00PM on October 31<sup>st</sup>, seconded by Ken.
5. Road Commissioner: Keith Lacasse got five tons of patch and put three tons on Smith Road and Old Route 7. He will finish around town this week. The excavator is back and he will work on the drainage on Beach Hill Road. He is monitoring beaver activity on the north end of the culvert on Ingraham Road. The logger on White Road will clean up the mud on the road. Keith met with Mark Phelps and Sandy Moderski about the culvert on Smith Road. They discussed options. Keith will check on the state records for drainage. There is a culvert on new Route 7, but it's too far to hook into. Keith will shoot some grades and do more investigation. The wash-out on Greylock Road, about halfway between the upper gate and beyond, will be repaired with approximately six loads of material. Keith will add more material near the guardrail where the road is losing asphalt. Keith will rent Mark's tractor to blow the leaves off the road, if DCR does not do it. Keith will call HMA about the road damage on Mallery Road. There is currently no plan for crack sealing. Roys Road and Mallery Road are starting to get cracks. It's \$10,000 minimum to do the work. Keith will call for an estimate on how much it

would cost and how long it would take. The Town could consider purchasing its own tank and pump for crack sealing. There are considerations about where to store the equipment.

6. Broadband: Around 18 residences have been hooked up. There will be around four installs a day. Ken will ask Whip City about the connection for Keith's house, to confirm it is using the existing conduit. There is a tree on Roys Road that needs removal for a connection. The cost will be split between the tree warden expense and the broadband fund. The Town Hall's internet will be installed on 10/12.

7. Any other unforeseen business: The Board reviewed letters that Ken wrote. Legal Counsel apologized for the delay in responding about 92/94 Beach Hill Road. They said if the property owner is the same on both lots (which Ken confirmed through the Register of Deeds) the common driveway and easement cannot be pursued. The letter has been amended for that change. Mark made a motion to approve the letter, seconded by Jason. The other letters of thanks for town service were signed.

Jason emailed the Assessor about a tax classification hearing and has not heard back. He will follow up. The Assessor has access to Gateway.

The School Committee discussed the bus turn around on Beach Hill Road being at the top of the hill, instead of at Frye's, and about having the small bus. The Superintendent spoke with Dufour about both issues.

8. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting October 21, 2019 at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 7:15