

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting
New Ashford Town Hall
February 24, 2020

Board Present: Jason Jayko (Chair), Ken McInerney (MLP Manager), Mark Phelps
Others Present: Richard George, Wayne Buckley, Keith Lacasse, Lori Jayko, Dave Carpenter,
Tina Carpenter, Lori Trottier, Corrine Phillips, Alan Steinhoff, Tammy Steinhoff, Kurt Singer

Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Bid Openings: No bids were received for the tanker truck for the Fire Department. Bids will be requested again for March 23rd. Wayne will contact AFG about getting an extension.
2. Approve minutes from Feb 3: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, the minutes from the February 3, 2020 New Ashford Select Board/MLP meeting were approved. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, the minutes from the January 31, 2020 New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting were approved.
3. Public Comment: Ken received a letter from the state that Animal Control has requirements of 30 hours of coursework for the Animal Control Officer and the Animal Control Officer Supervisor, to be renewed annually. We need a supervisor and a place to house animals. The previous Animal Control Officer took the animals to Williamstown. Training is in person and online and the cost is unknown. The Select Board may look into an agreement with another town.
4. Road Commissioner: Keith Lacasse, got a call on the 22nd that Greylock Road was icy. The road needed salt. Some cold patch is gone from the Salt Shed. There is a hole at the Roys Road bridge. Keith will look at it to determine a solution. Keith will order salt. The sand for residents needs to be refilled.
5. Community Host Agreement: Legal counsel sent back wording that if the town does not have a police department, the Police Chief, Fire Chief, and Select Board can review the security plan and make recommendations. The State Police will handle any problems. Hop Cultivators is responsible for providing security coverage. Ken abstained from the conversation.
6. Application-Database Server: Jason recommended setting up a small server in the IT closet at the Town Hall to replace the laptop for the Assessor and Tax Collector. Williamstown currently has the laptop, which requires different versions of team viewer for the Tax Collector and Patriot. If the laptop is off, the Tax Collector cannot access it. We will do backups and provide remote access to the Tax Collector, Assessor, and Patriot. Jason estimates it will cost around \$500 and would like to get it as soon as possible.
7. Budget: Jason has been working on the budget spreadsheet. The School Committee's budget hinges on whether or not Richmond remains in the Union. Ken will send out budget requests to department heads.

8. Broadband: Jason and Lori Jayko met with Whip City to learn how to reconcile the MLP account. Lori presented the Board with a balance spreadsheet and monthly reconciliations.

9. Town Clerk: Mark made a motion to go into executive session, to discuss the Town Clerk's job responsibilities and duties, seconded by Ken. The Board went into executive session by roll call vote at 7:15, with the intention of reopening the meeting. The executive session was adjourned by roll call vote at 7:47 and the regular meeting reopened.

10. Any other unforeseen business: The Historical Commission received a request to use the Old Schoolhouse, on November 2, 2020, to commemorate women's being able to vote. Mark informed Jason Hoch, Williamstown Town Administrator, of the \$10,000 from the Mohawk Trails Woodland Partnership grant for Williamstown. They plan to inventory their town land for the sale of carbon credits and will provide us with an invoice. We are using our \$10,000 for work on the trails in New Ashford on Bauer Road. We have to spend it by June 30th. Lori Trottier said there is no record of the vote for senior citizens in town to receive a discount on their real estate taxes. It will be an article on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Mark talked to the Building Inspector and she wants more documentation before proceeding with enforcement with the Carriage House. The previous Planning Board Chair expressed in an e-mail that a special permit was never granted and it is still operating as a motel. Jason will check to see if the people that handle the money at the Fire Department need to be bonded.

11. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting March 2, 2020 at 6:30.

Meeting adjourned at 8:19