

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting
Teleconference
April 23, 2020

Board Present: Jason Jayko (Chair), Ken McInerney (MLP Manager), Mark Phelps
Others Present: Lori Jayko

Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Approve Minutes from April 6: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, the minutes from the April 6, 2020 Select Board/MLP Meeting were approved.

2. Public Comment: None

3. Covid-19: There are no reported cases of covid-19 in town. Jason attends the phone calls with the operation center.

4. Meetings, Elections, ATM: The Board will wait for the first meeting in May to schedule the Annual Town Meeting and Elections.

The Fire Department requested money for gear and for radios. The Board would like the Department to prioritize and pick one. The radio grant may be a binding financial commitment, if it was applied for. Jason will confirm with Wayne.

The Board reviewed the quotes for a new roof for the Fire Station: KLC \$17,360 for a metal roof, Wooliver \$17,700 for asphalt and \$37,000 for metal, and A.C. Wood \$37,785 for metal. Other items on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant are changing certain positions from elected to appointed and a by-law about chickens, as proposed by the Board of Health.

5. Road Commissioner: Keith Lacasse will do the Bauer Road trail work. Mark called Keith about the estimate for the Smith Road culvert repair. Keith estimated that a forty-foot-long, 24-inch culvert, stone bedding/gravel, and rental of a bigger machine, with the work completed in a day and a half to be \$14,000 for the culvert and \$4,500 to re-blacktop. There is not enough money in the roads and bridges account this year. Keith recommended buying gravel for Ingraham Road, from the gate to past the last house. The gate needs to be moved. The millings from the Route 7 paving will be placed under the guardrails on Route 7, and there may not be any leftover for the town to use. Ken will get confirmation on whether the placement of the millings requires Conservation Commission approval.

Keith took down a tree that fell across Greylock Road and replaced a culvert on the Bauer Road Trail. He recommended doing crack sealing this year, especially for Ingraham Road. Keith will order salt once we confirm what is left in the Winter Roads accounts.

6. Budget: The Board reviewed the budget. Ken will talk to Hancock about sharing an Animal Control Officer. The Tax Collector expense stays at \$1,000. Kurt Singer needs a laptop for his work as the Chief of Police. Jason can give him something to use temporarily. Once Patriot moves the software to the server in the Town Hall, Kurt can have the laptop the Assessor is using. Town Accountant and expenses will stay the same. Ken will check about the Law Account amount. Mark will call B.J. Church about the Inspector's Education account,

specifically if she needs \$300 in her budget to get a copy of the codes for the town. The Police and Fire Insurance quote was not ready. Roads and Bridges account will be increased to \$60,000. The Road Commissioner Accounts and Winter Road account are staying the same. The School Committee has not voted on their budget yet. The Custodial account will stay the same. The Board will talk to the custodian about his cleaning routine and shoveling the ramp. Propane usage will be reviewed for the Town Hall expense account. Jason will confirm the Assessor software expense. Jason is waiting on one more number for the Town Website. Jason will review the Enterprise fund budget and make adjustments, including how numbers are reported on the recap sheet in order to be in line with the billing from Whip City. Whip City quoted a retainer of \$507.79 annually for Sertex for repairs. It will be set at \$2,000 in the budget. There is a device available for purchase for \$300 for the electric panel that can show where the electricity is being used. Broadband room insurance is under the scheduled property policy line. Jason will look into MLP liability insurance. Are the poles that the town owns covered? Depreciation was calculated based on the cost of the equipment. The Enterprise Fund will be reconciled at the end of the fiscal year in the same manner as the general fund. A Stabilization Account should be established for the Enterprise Fund. Lori will check on the requirements to do so.

The Board reviewed the invoices from Sertex and added them to the warrant.

7. Any Other Unforeseen Business: None.

8. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting May 4 at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 8:09