

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting  
New Ashford Town Hall/Teleconference  
March 1, 2021

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

Others Present: Keith Lacasse, Lori Jayko

Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Approve minutes February 22: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, the minutes from the February 22, 2021 New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting were approved.

2. Public Comment: None

3. Fire Department: The packing on Engine 4 was fixed. There is a crack in the Fire Station floor, that stops the middle door from closing all the way. It could be fixed with good weather stripping on the bottom. Keith has rubber bottoms that may work. There are paid invoices to Dave Carpenter from 2019, that cover charges he is billing for now. Fire Chief, Frank Speth, talked to legal counsel about the gear that has not been returned. The Board would like legal counsel to file charges.

4. Road Commissioner: Keith will review the Berkshire Purchasing e-mail. There can only be one account per town. Jason will create the e-mail account. Millings will be placed on Greylock Road, to back fill the sides of Smith Road, and on Ingraham Road. Keith will put cold patch on Old Route 7. Once the culverts are fixed on Ingraham Road, it will get a full depth reclamation with blacktop with Chapter 90 funds, including finishing Mallery Road to Cemetery Road and Cemetery Road to the Salt Shed. The parking lots of the Salt Shed and Fire Station will be paved from the roads and bridges account. Keith will clean town culverts out before July 1.

5. MLP: Ken attended a meeting on the Connect America Fund. The town has achieved 95% connectivity from Whip City and can expect payouts beginning in mid-2022 of \$14,400 a year. Many towns are hitting their 1 gig limit, but we are within the limit. Whip City wants us to use the ticket system when we have a problem. There is \$441.17 left in CARES Act money.

6. Tax Collector: Colleen Meehan has expressed interest in the position. Joan Wilkinson is updating the job description. Once Ken receives it back from Joan, he will talk to Colleen. Jason and the Treasurer got access to the Patriot system. We need to do an MLC and the second real estate tax bills should be mailed soon. Lori is working on getting money, \$68, from the bank account that Kevin Buldoc had.

7. Budget: The Bureau of Local Assessments and County Nurse are new line items. Ken will e-mail department heads for their budget requests. The law account will be increased to reflect the additional copy fees. Winter Roads will be increased to \$60,000. Roads and Bridges will stay the same. The Tree Removal account will be increased to \$10,000. The Town Hall expenses were reviewed. The front door will be replaced this year.

6. Unforeseen Business: Ken will respond to the public records request. He will get blinds for the IT room. The Town Hall needs window replacement, new siding, and a fire suppression system.

7. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting March 15 at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 7:40