

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting
New Ashford Town Hall/Teleconference
March 15, 2021

Board Present: Jason Jayko (Chair), Ken McNerney (MLP Manager), Mark Phelps
Others Present: Keith Lacasse, Lori Jayko, Richard George

Meeting opened

1. Approve minutes March 1 and March 9: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, the minutes from the New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting on March 1, 2021 were approved. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, the minutes from the March 9, 2021 New Ashford Select Board meeting were approved.
2. Public Comment: Lori said she has not received a dog license renewal. Dog license applications and fees are typically due in March. Fire Chief, Frank Speth will let Ken know the covid related PPE that the Fire Department needs. The Zoning Board of Appeals is holding a Public Hearing on April 8 at 7:00 for an appeal on the non-conforming lot on Beach Hill Road.
3. Road Commissioner: Keith Lacasse got a call from a concerned citizen on Roys Road, about an inappropriate sign hung on a town tree near the road. Keith removed the sign and turned it in to the Board. Keith took care of a water problem on White Road. He will order salt before the first of July. Keith will check a tree on Beach Hill Road that the Tree Warden called him about. Ken and Keith will fill out the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission's purchasing survey at the end of the meeting. There are concerns about logging occurring on Beach Hill Road with the heavy trucks traveling over the newly paved road. Keith will call and ask them to wait until the ground dries out. Keith drained water off Roys Road. The Roads and Bridges account has \$24,000 left. Keith will replace the culvert on Ingraham Road with a four foot, smooth bottom culvert as recommended by a state engineer. It will cost around \$15,000. The dry hydrant will be done at the same time. Black topping the driveway at the Fire Station and Salt Shed will be done from the roads and bridges account in the next fiscal year. Blacktopping Ingraham Road, the rest of Mallery Road to Cemetery Road, Cemetery Road to the Salt Shed, and Old Route 7 at least to Mountain Pond Lane will be done with Chapter 90 funds.
4. MLP: Ken was advised to wait to send a letter concerning federal funds being given to Charter and Time Warner for internet.
5. Tax Collector: Colleen Meehan has accepted the Tax Collector position and received the files and information.
6. Annual Town Meeting/Warrant: The Board reviewed the Annual Town Warrant. They will add an article to make the Cemetery Committee appointed. An article will put money in the Broadband Stabilization Fund. Work on the Town Hall will wait for the next fiscal year. There is money available to the town for covid related expenses and the America Rescue Act has an additional \$43,249 available.
The Annual Town Meeting is May 18 and the town elections are May 25.

7. Budget: The Board reviewed the budget, adding the unofficial School Committee budget of \$420,000. The Board reviewed the Enterprise budget. The property policy to insure the lines is \$2,800. Ken and Jason will review the insurance to confirm the line items.

The Board discussed having a fire suppression system in the IT Room.

8. Any other unforeseen business: Ken would like to invite DCR to the next meeting to discuss what to do with the Mohawk Trails Woodland Partnership Grant of \$39,500.

Ken made a motion to nominate Kurt Singer as the Inspector of Animals, seconded by Jason.

The motion passed unanimously.

9. Warrant: The warrants were reviewed and signed. There was a question about the TAM bill and it will be reserved for the next warrant.

Next meeting April 5 at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 8:00