

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting
New Ashford Town Hall/Teleconference
September 8, 2021

Select Board Present: Jason Jayko (Chair), Ken McInerney (MLP Manager), Mark Phelps
Others Present: Keith Lacasse, Richard George, Lori Jayko, Lindsey Kurowski, Louis Tancredi,
B.J. Church, Richard George, Alan Steinhoff, Tammy Steinhoff, Susan Supranowicz
Call-In: None
Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Approve minutes from 8/23: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, the minutes from the 8/23/21 New Ashford Select Board meeting were approved.
2. Public Comment: 1Berkshire requested a letter of support from the Select Board for a grant application. On a motion by Ken, seconded by Mark, the Board supported sending the letter of support. Richard George inspected the septic system at the Mill on the Floss. The Board of Health is closing the Town Hall to the public starting 9/3 due to the uptick in covid cases. Lindsey Kurowski introduced herself as the new owner of the Springs Motel. She has been working with the Building Inspector, B.J. Church, on getting the appropriate permits and is working through some issues with the Fire Department. B.J. stated that owners are allowed to turn off the fire alarm when it is a false alarm. Lindsey said she was cited from Fire Department for not having CO monitors in the rooms, however B.J. said that CO monitors are not required in the rooms as no gas lines run to them. A combo CO/smoke monitor is only necessary in the lobby. Workers staying at the property vacated until the Certificate of Occupancy for the lower building was obtained. B.J. said that the upper building's roof has an issue but it is structurally fine, and the Fire Department does not have jurisdiction to condemn a building. Jason will send Lindsey the information about obtaining a liquor license. Jason talked to the Fire Chief and will speak to him again to try to prevent confusion going forward. Mark explained he will abstain from any decisions about the property as he is an abutter.
Alan asked why mailboxes was on the agenda. The Board clarified that they want to extend the posts on the mailboxes at the Town Hall to make it uniform and provide enough room for the necessary boxes. Keith will add a split rail fence at the end of the mailboxes.
3. Front Door: Two keys broke in the lock in the front door this week. Keith got a quote of \$2,070 for a wooden, 42-inch wide, prehung door from Dettingers. Ken will get a quote from LP Adams. The Board will get a code/key lock for the door.
4. AEDs: The Fire Chief sent a quote for five new AED's. The Board tabled the issue until the next meeting to research how many AEDs are actually necessary for the Fire Department.
5. Road Commissioner: Keith ordered the septic tanks. He suggested putting a curtain drain around the tank at the Fire Station. The old tanks will get pumped and filled with sand. Jason will reach out to Mirabito about an estimate for running the propane line from the tanks at the Town Hall to the Fire Station. A representative from the company made a site visit several weeks ago. Williams gave Keith a quote of \$40,760 for repaving Old Route 7. Keith will call MassDOT to see if we have to put the job out to bid. He turned in three invoices to the Board

that had been e-mailed to the Town Accountant but did not get on the warrant. The roads held up well after the last storm. A resident called Keith about a branch on Greylock Road. Keith cut it and removed it from the road. There is some washout on Ingraham Road past the iron gate. The ditches need attention. Keith contacted Dalton about borrowing the mower for the sides of the road and has not heard back. Mark contacted someone in Cheshire and did not hear back. The Berkshire Regional Purchasing propane provider is Superior Plus Energy at \$1.44 a gallon.

6. Mailboxes: Already covered.

7. MLP: Ken contacted Whip City about expected cost adjustments, due to the increase in take rate with Whip City, and has not heard back. 3 Smith Road is scheduled for service.

8. Any other unforeseen business: Mark called Eversource and left a message about three trees near the power lines that need removal: one at 292 Mallery Road, one on Greylock Road, and the spruce tree near the Old Schoolhouse.

The Tax Classification Hearing is expected to be held in October. The Town Accountant and Treasurer are working on the A-2 form in Gateway.

Some residents complained about delays in receiving their motor vehicle abatements. Ken will check in with the Tax Collector.

Mark will talk to the Building Inspector about where she is storing her records and will request that copy of all records be filed at the Town Hall.

9. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed. L.P. Adams was written in for the Mohawk Trails Woodland Partnership grant and the invoice for the public nurse was added.

Next meeting September 20, 2021 at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 by a motion on Jason, seconded by Ken.