

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting
New Ashford Town Hall/Zoom
May 2, 2022

Select Board Present: Jason Jayko (Chair), Mark Phelps

Absent: Ken McInerney

Others Present: Lori Jayko, Susan Supranowicz, Keith Lacasse, Richard George, Michael Kearsy

Zoom: None

Meeting opened at 6:52

1. Approve minutes from 4/19/2022: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes from the 4/19/2022 New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting were approved. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes from the 4/28/2022 New Ashford Select Board/MLP meeting were approved. On a motion by Mark, second by Jason the minutes from the 4/15/2022 New Ashford Select Board/MVP meeting were approved.
2. Public Comment: Michael Kearsy found some historical documents that might be pertinent to the town. He will give them to the Town Clerk. He asked about the town internet and the Board explained about the partnership with Whip City.
3. ATM Warrant: Legal Counsel is reviewing the Annual Town Warrant. Jason cleaned up the wording and added bolding. Article 23 was added to create chapter C in the bylaws, as a place to list the adopted local options and the Massachusetts General Law 48 42A concerning the Fire Department. There is a warrant article to entertain a discussion about shared services regarding public safety, with the townspeople. AED grant money was received for the Fire Department, making that warrant article unnecessary. Mark made a motion to approve the warrant for the Annual Town Meeting as presented, seconded by Jason. The Board signed the copies.
4. Budget: Mark made a motion to table the item, seconded by Jason, as this was done at the previous meeting.
5. Bylaws: After June 1, the Board will work on getting the bylaws updated. Three local options and other approved bylaws are missing. Local options need to be submitted to the DOR.
6. Policies: Policies will be on the agenda for the second meeting in June.
7. Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership: Ken submitted the grant application for the next fiscal year. Keith will do the parking on Bauer Road for the Sugarloaf Trail and the footbridge across the stream. There's a washed-out culvert that needs attention. All MTWP grant work on the trails needs to be completed by June 30. DCR does not want parking added on Ingraham Road.

8. Road Commissioner: Keith is performing daily cleaning at the culvert on Ingraham Road, due to beaver activity. The alarms for the septic tanks are ready. Jason will call Pat Mickle for electric hookups. Jason read a letter from MassDOT about statewide funding for the Winter Road Recovery Program. New Ashford's WRAP funding is \$35,076.34. The reimbursement-based program requires an agreement with DOT before doing a project. Online submissions are required by June 30, 2023. Keith will ask Mass DOT for guidance on to how to best utilize the program. He will rake and seed the Town Hall lawn once the electrician is done.

9. Fire Department: Mark reported that the Fire Department was created in 1958. It was defunct for a number of years, then restarted. There was never any formal creation of an association. Lanesboro's approved fire budget for last year was \$112,000, which does not include EMS. They are creating an enterprise fund for EMS.

10. Any Other Unforeseen Business: Jason read that all 351 communities could get money for future opportunities for resilience. New Ashford could get downtown recovery grants for \$250,000, to revitalize the town coming out of covid. The Town Hall, Fire Station, and Old Schoolhouse are in need of repair work. The Board will keep an eye on this proposed legislation.

A tree on Roys Road was approved for removal by Eversource.

11. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting May 23, 2022 at 6 – MVP then Select Board
Meeting adjourned at 8:05