

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting
New Ashford Town Hall/Zoom
October 2, 2023

Board Present: Jason Jayko (Chair), Mark Phelps
Absent: Ken McInerney (MLP Manager)
Others Present: Lori Jayko, Susan Supranowicz, Richard George, Piotr Masiakowski, Keith Lacasse, Diane George
Zoom: Jake Scace

Meeting opened at 6:00

1. Whip City: Moved to November 6.
2. Approval of Minutes from September 18, 2023: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes from the September 18, 2023 New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting were approved unanimously. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes from the September 18, 2023 New Ashford Tax Classification Hearing were approved unanimously.
3. Public Comment: Piotr noted that he is putting the privacy net past the tree line on his property where the dirt was pushed. Mark and Keith met with Piotr and he offered to donate a piece of property for parking for the Sugar Loaf Trail. It will require a minimum amount of fill which can come from the dirt that was pushed onto Piotr's property when the road was widened to make room for snow removal. The work can be done using the Mohawk Trails Woodland Partnership grant money. The parking area will be approximately 200 feet from the trailhead with a sign directing hikers to the trail. "No Parking" signs will be added to the roadway. Mark, Keith, and Piotr will continue to work on this. The deadline for the completed project is June 30, 2024. The land should be donated to Conservation Commission.
4. Road Commissioner: Keith Lacasse mowed the sides of Beach Hill Road. There was a complaint from a resident wanting to know how far off the road the town owns. Keith called Condron, Donovan, and Williams for an estimate on patching. He will patch it himself if he does not get any responses. The beavers are not active at the culvert. Keith talked to the logger working on Ingraham Road about carrying lighter loads. The logger said he will take care and will not be finished before winter. Keith said if the road is damaged, he will shut them down. The Board will propose a bond requirement bylaw for vote at the Annual Town Meeting. WRAP money can be used for patching. Keith will mow White Road.
5. Mowing: Next year the Board would like to put a notice out to the town when mowing will occur.
6. Trees: Keith will remove the ash tree on Mallery Road near Morrone's and work from there. There are trees posing safety issues on Ingraham Road and several maples on Beach Hill Road.

7. Treasurer – Purchasing – Credit Card: The Treasurer met with the bank about getting a town credit card. She gave the Board the application for review. Decisions need to be made about the pre-approval process for purchasing and who will be allowed to have a card. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting along with reviewing a purchase order form.

8. Church: Jason got an e-mail that the title report is complete to 1953, as that is what is available online. A further search can be done at the Register of Deeds or the Board can move forward. Legal advised to take the extra steps if the intent is to develop, otherwise it's ok to move forward. Jason made a motion to proceed with the transfer, seconded by Mark. The motion passed unanimously and Jason will notify Legal.

9. Fire Truck: The Board asked for more detail in the contract. Fire Chief, Frank Speth, sent an e-mail stating that Mike Nugai said Greenwood cannot provide an itemized list of included equipment. The trades are included now, but are not coming off of the cost. Jason will respond asking for a list of included equipment as requested. He will also reach out to Legal Counsel for advice on how to proceed.

10. Fire Station Addition: Jason will put the specs out to bid this week with a completion date of May 1.

11. Old and Any Other Business: Jason talked to MEMA and was told it would take years for the culvert project, as it's a multi-stage process. The project scope sub application is the first step and the grants would require a 25% match by the town. Jason will fill out the form for MEMA.

Jason will take out the see-saws at the Town Hall this weekend and the old stairway on the side of the building. He will look into new playground equipment.

There's an issue with furnace 2. Jason will look at the wiring and get it serviced.

Susan went to a Town Clerk's conference about elections. She would like the Board to consider getting poll pads to check voters in. It is advised to get one to use and to have an extra as a back-up. The quote for two, with shipping and handling and licensing, is \$3,200 and a \$300 license per year. Mark suggested having the sales person attend a meeting.

Susan would like to hold Town Hall hours on Wednesdays from 9-12 and have the information posted to the Town Clerk's page on the website.

Town e-mails will be done once Free Cash is certified.

12. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting October 16, 2023 at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 7:19