

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting  
New Ashford Town Hall/Zoom  
January 8, 2024

Board Present: Jason Jayko (Chair), Mark Phelps  
Board Zoom: Ken McInerney (MLP Manager)  
Others Present: Lori Jayko, Susan Supranowicz, Lars Reinhard, Richard George, Keith Lacasse, Piotr Masiakowski, Diane George, Frank Speth, PJ Pannesco, Gary Sagendorph  
Others Zoom: None

Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Approval of Minutes from December 18, 2023: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, the minutes from the December 18, 2023 New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting were approved unanimously.
2. Public Comment: Lori said the town credit card was approved and received. The town was allotted \$28,124 for infrastructure through the MassDOT Fair Share program.
3. Fire Department: The Fire Chief, Frank Speth, said there are two options for the next Assistance for Firefighters Grant. They could try to replace the Humvee with a brush truck/medical truck or try to replace Engine 4, which is a 2004 International. It is in good shape and passed inspection, but is 20 years old. The brush/medical truck would be a  $\frac{3}{4}$  - 1 ton pickup truck. The AFG is for new vehicles only. It would likely take three years to get, based on the timeline of awarding of the grant and production. The Humvee is not currently operational. Frank will check if there are military surplus parts available. Frank will hire AJ to write the grant application. The Board thanked Frank for moving the Humvee inside. The engine from Pelham should be available this month. The sign above the bay doors at the Fire Station is not wired. The application was approved for the MEMA grant for a 30-gallon, portable air compressor and light up vests. Frank will be asking the Board about what to do with any extra equipment after the new engine arrives and discussed donating or selling.
4. Berkshire Public Health Alliance – Board of Health: The Berkshire Public Health Alliance is offering assistance with inspections, perc tests, etc. The fees from the inspections would cover their fees. Jason will let them know that we are interested.
5. Road Commissioner: Ken and Keith each got a call from a resident on Roys Road about her driveway being plowed in. Keith called Ronnies about their sign on Route 7, directing traffic to the second left. This may be why trailer trucks are going up Ingraham Road. Keith will keep an eye on the culverts with the upcoming snow and heavy rains. Jason will call John's about Ingraham Road being salted and about where to plow to on Ingraham Road. The logger has about another week of work. The lower gate is closed on Greylock Road. Ken noticed a MassDOT salt spill on Mallery Road and Route 7. He will send a complaint letter to MassDOT with his conservation concerns.
6. School House Boundaries: No updates. The issue was tabled.

7. Fire Station Addition: The project will be put back out to bid, with bids due by March 1 and work to be completed by June 30. Ken reached out to the DEP. They advised that a municipal project gets an NOI at no cost. The only cost is for the public hearing. As the addition is within 200 feet of the river front, the town has to give back double the square footage of the project for native species.

8. Woodlands Partnership Grant FY 24: Mark met with Piotr and flagged off the land he has offered to donate to the town. Keith looked at the availability of creating a parking area there. The grant money will be used for a surveyor. Mark will check with Legal Counsel about the procedure for the town's accepting the land, including whether it requires a town meeting. The land will have a privacy fence, no trespassing postings, and a picnic table. The Board thanked Piotr. Diane has concerns about rubbish being left behind and protection for the houses there. There was discussion about signs, lighting, and cameras. Mark suggested making the rest of the road no parking and towing cars that don't follow the postings. Ken will handle the surveying portion of the project, following Legal Counsel's advice.

9. MLP: Whip City said to expect CAFII funds sometime this year with a three year reimbursement, then payments each year after for seven years. There are no speed issue answers yet.

10. Old and Any Other Unforeseen Business: The Board thanked the Sheriff's office for the quick response to clean-up trash along Route 7.

11. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting January 22, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20