

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting
New Ashford Town Hall/Zoom
February 21, 2024

Board Present: Jason Jayko (Chair), Mark Phelps
Absent: Ken McInerney (MLP Manager)
Others Present: Lori Jayko, Susan Supranowicz, Richard George, Chris Lamarre
Zoom: Piotr Masiakowski

Meeting opened at 6:00

1. Approval of Minutes from February 8, 2024: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes from the February 8, 2024 New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting were approved.
2. Public Comment: Richard George has not heard back from Berkshire Regional Planning in regards to the garbage hauler that has not paid the permit fee.
3. Road Commissioner: Not present.
4. FD Addition: The discussion was tabled. It may be complicated to put the addition on due to environmental issues and the Salt Shed may be an alternative site.
5. School House Boundaries: Mark e-mailed Katherine from KP Law for any updates and she said there is nothing to report. She handed it off to the titling department and is waiting to hear back from them. Mark will follow up with her.
6. Animal Control Officer: The state has increased requirements for initial and ongoing training for the position. Jason is going to reach out to the state and ask for other options. The Board thinks these requirements are not appropriate for the town.
7. Woodlands Partnership Grant FY 24: Piotr would like the town to make commitments before he signs off on the land donation. He would like to see the plan for the parking area, repairs made at the border between the road and his property, road signs, and road maintenance. He is unsatisfied with the snowplowing this year. Piotr and Mark will meet and make a written list of steps going forward.
8. Budgets: Chris Lamarre is expecting level expenses for assessing for next year. He noted that sale prices are outstripping assessments in town and house values will likely go up for FY25. Last year's tax levy was \$466,000, with a tax rate of \$8.48. The estimated local receipts were \$60,590 for FY 24 and the actual receipts were \$71,653 from FY 23. Chris will work with Susan to identify the second homes in town to add to the personal property tax. It is possible that CollectPro will not be offered for much longer. The town could look into Softright or Vadar. Munis is likely too pricey. Budget numbers are coming in and being put into the budget spreadsheet.
9. Old and Any Other Unforeseen Business: None
10. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting March 4, 2024
Meeting adjourned at 7:09