

New Ashford Select Board Meeting

New Ashford Town Hall/Zoom

September 16, 2024

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

Absent: Ken McInerney

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

Zoom: None

Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Approval of Minutes from Sept 4, 2024: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason the minutes from the September 4, 2024 New Ashford Tax Classification Hearing were approved. On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes from the September 4, 2024 New Ashford Select Board/MLP meeting were approved.
2. Fire Station Addition: Keith will call some contractors for written quotes.
3. Public Comment: Richard George asked if there was anyone to fill the vacancy on the Board of Health, as there's an orientation meeting on October 10. Mark nominated Helen Majchrowski for the Board of Health to serve out Kurt Singer's term, seconded by Jason. The motion passed unanimously.
4. Tax Collector: Mark made a motion to appoint Lori Jayko as Tax Collector to fill out Brandy Jaro's position and to invoke the rule of necessity allowing Jason to vote on the issue in Ken's absence, seconded by Jason. The motion passed unanimously. The motor vehicle excise portion of Vadar should be up and running this week. Jason got the second extract from Catalis. As of September 3, nothing has been entered into Collect Pro.
5. Road Commissioner: Keith Lacasse said there's a beaver problem on Ingraham Road, causing the north side of the brook to fill with debris and mud. He will dig it out by the end of the week, as that's the Fire Department's drafting site. He will fill the potholes on the town roads. Donovan will finish the section on Ingraham Road. Mark said Eversource called about trees and they are still planning on sending a crew to cut back trees near the wires. There are a couple of dead trees near the Salt Shed. Keith wants to make sure he has a place to put the brush on town land on Ingraham Road, before he cuts them. He will clean the swales on Beach Hill Road. He can install a new replacement back door to the church, back door to the fire station, and side door and frame on the fire station. The back door at the fire station might just need the threshold replaced. Doors will be on the next meeting's agenda.
6. Church Water and Heat: Keith can run the water line and open up the space for the gas company to run the line for propane.
7. Special Town Meeting: Jason will work on the warrant and add the doors. Robert Lyon volunteered to paint the fire station for the cost of the paint. Mark will verify the cost.

8. Town Clerk Updates: Susan has been getting people organized to work the elections. She has not heard back from the Chief of Police in Lanesboro about having a Lanesboro police officer present at the elections, which will be paid for from a grant. Susan has to provide early voting for at least four hours on one weekend, four on another, and 25% of the hours she works. Mark made a motion for the Select Board to approve the necessary hours to meet the state requirements for early voting, seconded by Jason. Susan will send alcohol license renewal forms to Bondhu and the Springs. Lori will let her know if they are up to date on taxes. Susan will get lunch from Biggins Diggins for the election workers. Jason made a motion to appointment Mary-Teresa Forstati to the Board of Registrars, seconded by Mark. The motion passed unanimously. Mark made a motion to appoint Mary-Teresa Forstati as Constable, seconded by Jason. The motion passed unanimously.

9. Old and Any Other Unforeseen Business: The upgrade for the backhaul and internet equipment will be Sept 25th at 10am – 10:30am. The internet will be down for up to half an hour. The speed of the backhaul will be increased and the cost reduced to \$1,600 monthly. The records at Town Hall need to be organized. There may be a grant available.

10. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting October 7 at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 7:17