

New Ashford Select Board Meeting

New Ashford Town Hall/Zoom

November 4, 2024

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

Select Board Zoom: Ken McInerney

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

Others Zoom: None

Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Approval of Minutes from October 21, 2024: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes from the October 21, 2024 New Ashford Select Board Meeting were approved.
2. Public Comment: Diane thanked the Road Commissioner for the road work and repairs to the culvert on Ingraham Road.
3. Road Commissioner: Keith Lacasse fixed the culvert on Ingraham Road and patched the majority of the potholes in town. He cleaned the ditches on Ingraham Road, scraped Greylock Road, and put three buckets of six inch minus in the washout on Greylock Road.
4. Church: The Board would like to get the water and propane hooked up as soon as possible and asked Keith to schedule the boring. He will measure to determine distance from the stream. Jason will contact LP Adams about the door replacements for the church and the fire station. The Board would like the Historical Commission to contact the nonprofit organization that Steve Nielsen is involved with about their helping with the restoration of the steeple.
5. Town Clerk Updates: Susan got her paper shredder and it works well. She is ready for the elections.
6. Old and Any Other Unforeseen Business: Diane George, Planning Board Co-Chair, attended a zoom meeting concerning the Accessory Dwelling Unit law that the state has enacted. The accessory dwellings are allowed to be one half of the original building, up to 900 feet and there is limited ability by towns to refuse to allow these to be built on properties. The Planning Board will meet to discuss and determine if/what by-law additions are necessary. This needs to be in place by 2-2-25. There are Title V implications and Town Council may need to be consulted. Diane is contacting other towns to see how they are handling it. Lori requested to purchase a box of paper for the Town Hall with the town credit card. Mark made a motion to allow purchase of a box of copy paper for the Town Hall with the town credit card, seconded by Jason. Mark acknowledged and thanked Cindy Grosso for her efforts on the Phoebe Jordan presentation.

Ken said with the inadvertent misdirection of the Selectboard to the Road Commissioner, natural town debris were mistakenly placed on Map 5 Lot 015 instead of Town of New Ashford Property (Map 5 Lot 016) on October 28th 2024. Following clean up and lessons learned, the Woodlands Partnership Subcommittee has elected not to pursue the donation of a small parcel of land from the owner of Map 5 Lot 015 for the Sugarloaf Trail Trailhead Parking lot. Mark made a motion to accept the decision and pursue alternative uses of the grant funds, seconded by Jason. The motion passed unanimously.

Susan got an e-mail from MTWP asking if the town has any town owned land where they could do a group walk identifying trees, shrubs, and flowers. Ken suggested the old bog trail or the Sugarloaf Trail off Bauer Road. If the group is over 30 people DCR needs to be notified 45 days in advance.

Ken will ask Pete Rancourt to perform the annual maintenance on the generators at Town Hall and the Fire Station.

7. Warrant: No warrant as the Accountant was on vacation.

Next meeting November 18, 2024 at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 6:55