

New Ashford Select Board/MLP Meeting
New Ashford Town Hall
January 21, 2026

Board Present: Jason Jayko (Chair), Ken McInerney (MLP Manager), Mark Phelps
Others Present: Lori Jayko, Susan Supranowicz, Richard George, Helen Majchrowski, Mario Gagliardi

Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Approve Minutes from 1/5/2026: On a motion by Mark, seconded by Ken, the minutes from the 1/5/2026 New Ashford Select Board/MLP meeting were approved as amended.

2. Board of Health: The Board of Health is waiting to get a proposed contract from the Berkshire Health Alliance. The alliance charges the town of Washington \$6,000 a year. They can be hired on a case by case basis for \$80/hr. They discussed the buildings falling down across from the Fire Station and a Title V for Bondhu.

3. Public Comment: Lori asked for authorization to use the town credit card to purchase paper for the Town Hall. Ken made a motion for the town Treasurer to purchase paper for the Town Hall, seconded by Mark.

The Assessor sent the CAI tax mapping contract for 2026. The Board reviewed the contract and signed it. Lori will get it back to the Assessor.

Mario Gagliardi, Tree Warden, will have a dangerous tree on Cemetery Road removed.

4. Fire Department: The Northern Berkshire Emergency Preparedness Group requested a list of warming centers from communities. The Town Hall will be the warming center, with contact information posted on the door for access if needed.

Jason reprogramed the door lock at the Fire Station and sent the codes to the Fire Chief. The codes are in the Select Board's shared spreadsheet.

The generator is back on the wi-fi. It needs the same app plan that the town has for the Town Hall generator, for \$60 a year. Ken made a motion authorizing the town Treasurer to purchase the plan for \$60, seconded by Mark.

There was a personal UTV parked in the Fire Station for a couple of days. It has been removed. Personal vehicles may not be parked in the station, as it's a liability. The station is cleaner. The wall needs insulation and sheetrock above the door. Jason will research getting the door a new part to keep it from slamming.

5. Road Commissioner: Not present.

6. Recycling Center Survey: The Board reviewed the survey that Ken drafted. It will be sent out to the town. Richard George will get a list of licensed garbage haulers to the Board.

7. Grants: Everything has been submitted. The ramp repair will be discussed at the next meeting. Three quotes are needed for repairs and will include accessing and repairing the well cap.

8. MLP: Ken met with Andrew Short from Whip City last Friday. The CAFII disbursement is expected in February, for around \$14,000. Whip City is doing heat maps for their service areas and will discuss in the hill town meeting. Future communication is coming on 2.5 G availability. Steve Kolek will be the new representative for the town. Whip City is working to get the internet rewired for redundancy, if the connection goes down at One Federal. There are two overdue accounts of concern. Lori will send Ken an updated report of overdue accounts. There was discussion of placing liens on properties for unpaid MLP accounts and having home owners get the service and pass it on to their renters. Andrew will let Ken know if the vegetation survey can be done during the ride out.

9. Town Hall Basement: The snowblower is here and working well. The battery will need to be replaced every five years and tire chains can be put on if necessary. The basement door does not open all the way and will be repaired in the spring. The old duct work in the basement will be thrown away. The cabinets will be put on pallets. The Fire Department's water is still in the basement. Ken changed the filters on the furnaces and tagged them with the date.

10. Town Clerk: The census is going out.

11. Old and Any Other Unforeseen Business: The personal go fund me account, to benefit the veterinarian who provided services for the dog found in town, raised \$350. Mark made a motion to pay \$150 to Keith Beebe from the Animal Control Officer expense account, seconded by Jason.

Ken emailed Mackenzie Greer, from DCR, to propose moving part of the Sugarloaf Trail. She will bring it up at the next DCR meeting and the town has to apply to move it. Ken will fill out the application.

Mount Greylock was not open for snowmobiling, despite having the required amount of snow on the ground. Ken proposed adding wording to the Annual Town Meeting warrant article that the Board can open town roads for winter recreation purposes.

Keith refilled the resident sand shed.

12. Budget requests will go out by the end of the month.

13. Warrant: The warrant was reviewed and signed.

Next meeting February 4 at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 7:23