

Town of Ashland New Hampshire 03217

Town Office Office (603) 968-4432 Fax (603) 968-3776

TOWN BULLETIN

August 9, 2012 Issue # 67

News from the Town Office

On August 6th the second 'economic development' meeting for State and local officials was hosted by the Town Administrator and held at the Fire Station. At this meeting a date was set for the 'economic development round table' forum to be held in Ashland on Thursday October 25th from 8 am to 10 am with a venue to be determined. This 'economic development summit' will be hosted by Plymouth State University, Grafton County Economic Development Council and the Plymouth Regional Chamber of Commerce. The invitees will be State and Local Officials, area Town Administrators, Town Managers, Planners and Businesses. The format will include keynote speaker PSU President Steen making remarks on 'community partnerships' and a panel discussion.

Also on the morning of August 6th contractors who will be bidding on the roof replacement at the Fire Station took part in a mandatory 'walk about' and asked questions of the Structural Engineer and the Fire Chief. Sealed bids have to be in the Town office by 12:00 noon on Monday August 20th and these will be opened at the Selectmen's meeting that evening.

Martha Richards and Bob Lamb came to the Selectmen's August 6th meeting to allow our community to ask questions regarding their candidacy for Grafton County Commissioner and State Senate for District 2 respectively. Select Board Chairman Jeanette Stewart informed the public of business discussions that took place at the meetings on July 25th and August 1st when the Board signed the manifest. She announced that at the next Selectmen's work session to be held on September 12th representatives from the Town's insurance carrier Primex were coming to the Town office to discuss matters regarding the Town beach and the area behind the waste water treatment facility that has been used for shooting practice.

Chairman Stewart mentioned that she had spoken to Union President Ray Dow and was to set up a meeting with the new Field Representative Chris Long and the Town's Collective Bargaining committee shortly to discuss the Union contributing towards their health insurance costs. The Town Administrator was directed by the Board to write to the Premier of Quebec advising him that at the polls the voters of Ashland had registered their objection and opposition to the Northern Pass project.

The Ashland Revitalization Alliance (ARA) held its first meeting of the month on Tuesday morning and among many topics discussed was the ongoing Gateway Signage project. A sub-committee is working with Paquette Signs in Meredith and the State to have a welcome sign placed at the entrance to the Town located on State property below the liquor store. The ARA events committee has managed to secure a solo performer who is familiar to Lakes Region residents. Jackie Lee from Belmont will be playing guitar in Memorial Park on Sunday August 12th from 5:30 to 7:30 pm so bring your blankets and chairs and listen to some fine Country and Blues music.

The Capital Improvement Program committee meeting has been rescheduled from Wednesday August 15th to August 22nd to accommodate a visit from Mike McCormick of McCormick Facilities Management. Mike will discuss the costs for energy conservation measures and outline his plan for the Town buildings that require attention over a period of time.

Paul Weston of Transport Central has contacted eight Ashland residents who have offered to become volunteer drivers and who will be reimbursed at 55 cents per mile to transport seniors and the disabled to services in their private vehicles. Once a pool of qualified drivers is established a central phone number will be published to begin serving the transportation needs of our community. Those who are willing to become volunteer drivers should contact Paul Weston at 279-5638 or by e-mail at r.paul.weston@gmail.com.

Other Town News

Posters are up around Town for the Circle Triathlon which will be held on September 2nd. For more information please see the event website at www.circletriathlon.org

Ashland's sixth Town Wide Yard Sale will be held, rain or shine on Saturday September 15th. Application forms for listing on the yard sale map or a site in Memorial Park can be obtained at the Town Office, the Community Center and Bob's Shurfine. The fees are \$5 for a map listing and \$10 for a site in the park. The deadline for applications is September 8th.

For more information please contact either Sue Longley at 536-3141 or David Ruell at 968-7716.

The Ashland Historical Society's August Program is "Native New Hampshire Before Contact: Archaeological and Tribal Perspectives" by David Stewart Smith to be held at 7 pm on Wednesday August 29th in the Ashland Elementary School Cafeteria.

Meetings & events scheduled for the week commencing August 13, 2012

Tuesday August 14th

Ashland Water & Sewer Commissioners Work Session Utility Office (side entrance) 6 Collins Street 1 pm

Ashland Conservation Commission Ashland Town Office 20 Highland Street 6 pm

Ashland Electric Commissioners Utility Office 6 Collins Street 7 pm

Wednesday August 15th

Ashland Board of Selectmen Ashland Town Office 20 Highland Street 8:30 am

Thursday August 9th

Ashland Water & Sewer Commissioners Utility Office (side entrance) 6 Collins Street 5:30 pm

Important Telephone Numbers

Town Office hours: Mon. Tues. Wed. & Fri. 8am-4pm; Thursday 8am-5pm Phone (603) 968-4432

Phone (603) 968-7240 Board of Selectmen: Chairman Jeanette Stewart

Vice Chair Dan Golden Phone (603) 968-3484

Phone (603) 968-7959 Phil Preston

Phone (603) 968-4000 Police Department Phone (603) 968-7772 Fire Department -NON EMERGENCY-

Public Works Department Phone (603) 968-3166

Utility Department hours: 8am-4pm Mon-Fri.

Electric Phone (603) 968-3083 Water & Sewer

Phone (603) 968-4002 Parks & Recreation Department Phone (603) 968-9209

Health & Welfare Department Phone (603) 968-4432

Welfare hours: 5:30-7:30pm Thursday.

Transfer Station hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 12-4pm;

Saturday 8am-4pm. Phone (603) 968-9032

Phone (603) 968-4432 Building Inspector hours: Thursday 3:30-5pm

Library hours: Mon, Tuesday, Thursday 1-7pm; Friday & Saturday 10am-2pm. Closed: Wednesday & Sunday. Phone (603) 968-7928

Ashland Food Pantry hours: Thurs.12-6 pm; Fri. 12-6 pm; Sat.10 am-2 pm Closed: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday. Phone (603) 968-9698

Please remember the Town website at www.ashland.nh.gov should be consulted when looking for specific information about the Town. This newsletter helps the Town Office share information and establish a direct connection with our audience, the residents (and taxpayers) of Ashland who are unable to view our website or attend Selectmen meetings. We try to keep them informed and remind them of the many ways their local government is working to improve their quality of life.

Paul C. Branscombe, Town Administrator