

1                   **ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES**  
2                               **REGULAR MEETING**  
3                               **TUESDAY, JANUARY 2, 2018**  
4                   **ASHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CONFERENCE ROOM**  
5                               **6:30 PM**  
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9   **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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12   **CALL TO ORDER**

13   Chairman Newton called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with a roll call. Chairman Fran Newton,  
14   Vice Chairman Harold Lamos, Selectman Casey Barney, and Selectman Leigh Sharps present.  
15   Selectman Tejasinha Sivalingam absent with prior notice. Others Present: Town Administrator  
16   Charles Smith and Administrative Assistant Wendy Smith.  
17  
18

19   **PUBLIC COMMENT**

20   Mardean Badger spoke on the proposed warrant article regarding a structure height limit of 65 feet on  
21   town land and how there are already height restrictions in place. She went on to say that any changes  
22   would require a warrant article to amend the existing zoning ordinance. Attorney Mitchell has given  
23   his opinion on this proposed article and she encourages the review of his comments. She conveyed  
24   concern regarding the Conflict of Interest ordinance and how it will discourage board and committee  
25   participation. She also stated that some boards already have conflict of interest RSA's in place.  
26  
27

28   **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

29   December 18, 2017-approved as written.  
30

31   **MOTION:** By Selectman Sharps  
32   *Approve 12/18/17 minutes as written.*

33   **SECOND:** By Selectman Barney

34   **VOTE:** 4-0 (**All in favor**)

35   **MOTION PASSED**  
36

37   December 28, 2017-approved as written.  
38

39   **MOTION:** By Selectman Sharps  
40   *Approve 12/28/17 minutes as written.*

41   **SECOND:** By Selectman Barney

42   **VOTE:** 4-0 (**All in favor**)

43   **MOTION PASSED**  
44  
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46

1 **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 2 • General Fund Manifest and Payroll Manifest for the weeks of December 18, 2017 and  
3 December 25, 2017 were signed by a quorum of the Board.  
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6 **DEPARTMENT HEADS**

7 TA Smith reported that a pipe froze at the Town Hall resulting in no hot water. The pipe is currently  
8 being repaired.

9 Chair Newton requested that the Department Heads and the Town Administrator supply rotating  
10 monthly updates to keep the public informed.  
11

12 **OLD BUSINESS**

13 None  
14

15 **NEW BUSINESS**

16 **PROPOSED WARRANT ARTICLES**

17 **Building regulation fees:** The Planning Board's intent of the warrant article was discussed.  
18 Representatives from the Planning Board explained that building regulation fees need to cover  
19 the cost of the program. It was determined by legal counsel that an article voted on in 2015  
20 determined that the Board of Selectman is responsible for setting the fees and cannot delegate  
21 this authority. Chair Newton stated that this proposed warrant article would reiterate what was  
22 voted on in 2015.  
23

24 **MOTION:** By Selectman Sharps

25 *Approve proposed Building Regulation fee warrant article.*

26 **SECOND:** By Selectman Barney

27 **VOTE:** 4-0 (All in favor)

28 **MOTION PASSED**  
29

30 **Conflict of interest:** Discussion regarding this warrant article ensued. Selectman Sharps  
31 agreed with Mardean Badger's opinion that the warrant article would discourage participation  
32 in Town Boards and Committees. Chair Newton added that concerns should be addressed on a  
33 case by case basis, put in writing and reviewed.  
34

35 **MOTION:** By Selectman Barney

36 *Proposed Conflict of Interest warrant article not approved to be put on ballot.*

37 **SECOND:** By Selectman Sharps

38 **VOTE:** 4-0 (All in favor)

39 **MOTION PASSED**  
40

41 **Structure height limit on town land:** TA Smith spoke with legal counsel and conveyed that  
42 this proposed ordinance would preempt the existing state statute and would illegally interfere  
43 with the Towns right to manage town property. Vice Chair Lamos brought up the height of the  
44 Electric Department building and how this ordinance would put the power in the hands of the  
45 people. Discussion followed in which it was brought up that public hearings were held

1 regarding the Electric Department building and that a warrant article of this nature would have  
2 to be adopted as a zoning ordinance. No motion was put forth.

3  
4 **SELECTBOARD ITEMS**

- 5 • Guidelines for ethical conduct of public officials: Tabled for next work session.

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7 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

8 Kathleen DeWolfe stated that public hearings were not well attended by residents.

9 Susan MacLeod spoke on democracy and how it involves full participation and healthy debate in a  
10 respectful manner.

11  
12 The Board of Selectmen determined that the engineers would not need to attend the 1/9/18 Thompson  
13 Street bond article meeting because the Town has the engineering plans. It was also agreed that the  
14 DPW Director will need to be there. Chair Newton brought up that the Voter's Guide needs to be  
15 reviewed and that the ordinances need to be explained clearly. She asked the Board for any comments,  
16 having none added that a draft Board of Selectmen report will be emailed to the Town Hall shortly.

17  
18 Susan MacLeod suggested that Zoning Amendments be included in the Town Report and the Voter's  
19 Guide.

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21 There being no other business, Selectman Sharps made **Motion to go into Non-Public Pursuant to RSA 91-**  
22 **A:3, II (c) at 7:10 PM.** Selectman Barney seconded. **Roll Call Vote:** Barney, yes, Newton, yes, Lamos, yes;  
23 Sharps, yes.

24  
25 Board of Selectmen left nonpublic at 7:35 PM. **Reentered Non-Public Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) at 7:36**  
26 **PM and reconvened at 7:40 PM.** TA Smith asked the Board of Selectmen to clarify start date of hourly to salary  
27 pay rate change for Parks and Recreation Director voted on at the 8/22/17 Selectmen's Meeting. It was determined  
28 the change would start on 1/1/18 to coincide with union employees raise date.

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30 Board of Selectmen adjourned their meeting at 7:42 PM.

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32  
33 Respectfully submitted,

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35  
36 Wendy Smith  
37 January 4, 2018