ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
WORK SESSION
TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2018
ASHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY
6:30 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CALL TO ORDER
Chairman Newton called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with a roll call. Chairman Fran Newton, Selectmen Leigh Sharps, Casey Barney, and Vice Chairman Harold Lamos, present. Others present: Town Administrator Charles Smith and Administrative Assistant Wendy Smith.

Chair Newton announced that Selectman Sivalingam resigned from the Select Board via email received on January 7, 2018.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Mardean Badger explained that the proposed groundwater ordinance was a collaboration with the Planning Board, Zoning Board, Water and Sewer Department, Conservation Commission, and Lakes Region Planning Commission and will become part of the zoning ordinance. The ordinance protects the well field/groundwater and surrounding area of “most importance”. It grandfathers existing uses in the area and will only apply to new proposed uses. Copies of the ordinance are available on the Town website and will be available at the Deliberative Session.

Kathleen DeWolfe informed the Board that she brought original paperwork on the banners if it would be helpful in the discussion of the Ashland 150th Committee under New Business.

Steve Felton gave his opinion on the Community Based Rights Ordinance warrant article. He urged the voters to read the full nine page document in order to make an informed decision. The brief write up available does not give a true understanding of what the ordinance implies. Having read the full document himself he feels that it is irrational, impractical, pieces of it are illegal, and potentially costly because it changes the way the town is governed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
January 2, 2018-Page 3, line 12 strike “TA Smith and”; page 3, line 15 add “asked the Board for any comments, having none” after word “She”; page 3, line 26 add “and reconvened at 7:40 PM” after “7:36 PM”.

MOTION: By Selectman Sharps
Approve 1/2/18 minutes as amended.
SECOND: By Selectman Barney
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

January 9, 2018-Page 1, line 14 strike “called the” add “opened the public meeting”; page 2, line 4 replace “would” with “wouldn’t”, insert “to help pay for the new system” after word “past”; page 2, lines 5 and 6 strike “in the area such as Plymouth”; page 2, lines 15 and 16 strike “and reduce downtime and emergency situations”; page 2 line 42 strike “there is at least” add “would be used to offset” after word “grant”; page 2, line 43 insert “and are in their second year” after the word “years”; page 3, line 4 replace “reviewed” with “voted on”.

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1/16/18 Select Board Work Session Meeting
MOTION: By Selectman Sharps
Approve 1/9/18 minutes as amended.
SECOND: By Selectman Barney
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

CONSENT AGENDA
Signed by Selectmen:
  a. Payroll and Account Payables Manifests from weeks of 1/1/18 and 1/8/18.
  b. Abatements for balances under $5 off the Tax Warrant, total of $19.48.

DEPARTMENT HEADS
Department of Public Works: New computer set up from Certified Computer Solutions (CSS). DPW Director Moore spoke on need of new computer for the DPW. An estimate was supplied by CSS for a laptop computer with Microsoft Office including set up labor for $2,325.00. The existing computer was purchased in 2007 and is too old to update because it is not supported by Microsoft. Cost of a new computer was not put in the 2017 budget. Other suppliers were looked into but CCS will be able to support more fully if purchased through them. Discussion as to which budget line and year the computer expense should be applied to followed.

MOTION: By Selectman Sharps
Approve purchase of Surface Tablet laptop system for the DPW in the amount of $2,325.00 contingent to come from 2017 budget if possible.
SECOND: By Vice Chair Lamos
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

Fire Department: Accident policy for Ashland Fire Department. Deputy Bousquet explained that policy from Green Insurance Associates for $3,373.00 is gap insurance in addition to existing town workers compensation policy for volunteer firefighters which will then cover 100% of lost income due to injury.

MOTION: By Vice Chair Lamos
Approve Green Insurance Associates accident policy expenditure in the amount of $3,373.00.
SECOND: By Selectman Sharps
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

Police Department: Chief Randall obtained a $26,897.00 price from Irwin Motors for a new cruiser which is $1,111.00 less than cruiser purchased last year and includes trade in of $5,000. This vehicle will replace the 2014 Interceptor which was put in service in 2013 and has over 100,000 miles on the odometer. He is working on outfitting costs with Ossipee Mountain Electronics which should be approximately $10,000.00 to 12,000.00. The Capital Reserve account has $58,000 which will be applied to this expenditure, leaving a balance of approximately $36,000 to $38,000 to be spent.

MOTION: By Vice Chair Lamos
Authorize the expenditure from capital reserve for the police vehicle.
SECOND: By Selectman Sharps
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED
Selectman Sharps asked Chief Randall if there were other Police Department needs the Board should be aware of. Chief Randall reported that they had recently purchased plates for active shooter incidents and had received the protective kits needed for overdose situations. He publically thanked the donor for the purchase of the protective kits.

OLD BUSINESS

Town Administrator Updates: TA Smith summarized his Town Administrator Update which included reports from the Fire Department, Parks and Recreation Department, the Electric Department, and the Town Clerk and Tax Collector.

Fran Newton wished retiring Electric Department Superintendent, Lee Nichols the best and thanked him for his 25 years of service.

Project List:
- NHDOT – Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) Grant (Rt. 3/25 sidewalk project): The notice to proceed with engineering study has been granted.
- Thompson Street/High Street/Smith Hill Road Reconstruction; Water and Sewer Replacement: Public hearing has been completed. Next step is the deliberative session.
- Geographic Information System (GIS) Mapping: No updates.
- LW Packard Mill Site Brownfields project: Nobis continues to consolidate reports of work completed and will have a draft available soon. They are waiting for laboratory results.
- Town Buildings Telecommunications: Certified Computer Systems has completed the switch over to fiber optic cable at the Town Offices. The Police Department switch will be completed soon.
- Ashland Electric Department building: No updates.
- River Walk Maintenance: No updates.

NEW BUSINESS

Ashland Heritage Commission: Chair Susan MacLeod read statement expressing concern with a noncompliant handling of the Heritage Fund and went over the proper procedure for payments in the future. Chair Newton apologized on behalf of the Board for this oversight. Chair MacLeod also wanted to clarify that there should be $765.18 in their account after the transfer to the 4th of July Committee.

Fourth of July Committee: The Fourth of July Committee budget and Rules and Procedures were supplied to the Board for their review. TA Smith informed the Board that they would need to vote on the approval of the Rules and Procedures as well as on the acceptance of the transfer of $13,796.00. Chair Newton asked that a statement be added to clarify 91A compliance. She asked if there is a requirement of at least one of the officers of the Committee be an Ashland resident. Fourth of July Chair, Fran Wendelboe responded there should not be a requirement of Ashland residency for officers as that would be restrictive. TA suggested appointing Parks and Recreation Director, Ann Barney as a town liaison to the committee. He confirmed that she had agreed with this idea. Approval of the budget was tabled to next meeting in order for the Board of Selectmen to review it more thoroughly.

MOTION: By Vice Chair Lamos
Appoint Parks and Recreation Director, Ann Barney as liaison to the Fourth of July Committee.
SECOND: By Selectman Sharps
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED
MOTION: By Vice Chair Lamos
Approve Rules and Procedures as amended.
SECOND: By Selectman Sharps
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

MOTION: By Vice Chair Lamos
To accept the 13,796.00 in order for the Fourth of July Committee to proceed with event.
SECOND: By Selectman Sharps
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

Ashland 150th Celebration Committee Update: Chair Newton clarified that to take down banners temporarily in order to put up the 150th Celebration Committee banners, permission is needed from the business owners who sponsored the banners. 150th Celebration Committee Chair, Jane Sawyer responded that she would send the business owners letters requesting permission. Discussion ensued regarding banner ownership, storage, and necessity of Board approval of any DPW expenditure of overtime. Chair Sawyer went over the budget and asked for Board support of the warrant article requesting $15,000.00. Vice Chair Lamos asked about the cost of the parade and Chair Sawyer responded that she is trying to obtain a grant from Meredith Village Savings bank to help offset that.

NHDOT – TAP Grant (new Main St./Rt. 3 & 25 sidewalk): TA Smith discussed the status on the TAP grant sidewalk project. The next step is to approve the KV Partners LLC Design and Construction Services Agreement in order for them to start the study. Construction will potentially begin the spring of 2019 and public hearings will take place before that time.

MOTION: By Selectman Sharps
To approve the KV Partners LLC Design and Construction Services Agreement as written.
SECOND: By Selectman Barney
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

MOTION: By Vice Chair Lamos
To have TA Smith sign the KV Partners LLC Design and Construction Services Agreement.
SECOND: By Selectman Barney
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

SELECTBOARD ITEMS

Code of Ethics: Chair Newton signed Code of Ethics previously signed by a prior Selectboard. She distributed it to the Selectboard members to sign at their own discretion.

2018 Town Warrant – BOS recommendations

• Article 11-Enter into a five year lease purchase agreement for new DPW loader: Chair Newton read Article 11. TA Smith confirmed that escape clause language will be added to the article. DPW Director Moore spoke on the necessity of replacing the existing 1980 loader. The existing loader is antiquated and not efficient. The DPW does need two loaders for winter plowing and summer ditch work and also as a backup in case one breaks down. In 2017 the existing loader was paid off, therefore it will be level funded.
MOTION: By Selectman Sharps
To Recommend Article 11.
SECOND: By Selectman Barney
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

- Article 25, Petitioned - Article to rescind SB2: Chair Newton read Article 25. This was originally a Selectboard article, which was voted to recommend. No further discussion.

MOTION: By Vice Chair Lamos
To Recommend Article 25.
SECOND: By Selectman Barney
VOTE: 3-1 (Yes-Newton, Lamos, Barney; No-Sharps)
MOTION PASSED

- Article 26, Petitioned - Default budget determination: Chair Newton read Article 26. Chair Newton explained that this article would give the default budget determination back to the Budget Committee. Consensus was the Selectboard worked directly and on an ongoing basis with the Department Heads.

MOTION: By Selectman Sharps
To Not Recommend Article 26.
SECOND: By Chair Newton
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

- Article 27, Petitioned - Elect the Planning Board by ballot: Chair Newton read Article 27. Board had previously voted not to recommend.

MOTION: By Selectman Sharps
To Not Recommend Article 27.
SECOND: By Selectman Barney
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

- Article 28, Petitioned - Elect the Zoning Board of Adjustment by ballot: Chair Newton read Article 28. Board had previously voted not to recommend.

MOTION: By Selectman Sharps
To Not Recommend Article 28.
SECOND: By Selectman Barney
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

- Article 29, Petitioned – Community Rights-Based Ordinance: Chair Newton read Article 29. TA Smith sent the article to legal counsel who informed him that as a town we cannot vote an ordinance in that says permits and licenses are illegal, disregards court rulings or waives civil and criminal liability. This is trying to change constitutional laws which are not our level of government. Further discussion followed sharing concerns on this article.
MOTION: By Selectman Barney  
To Not Recommend Article 29.  
SECOND: By Selectman Sharps  
VOTE: 4-0-1 (Yes-Newton, Barney, Sharps; abstained-Lamos)  
MOTION PASSED  

- Article 30, Petitioned – Conflict of Interest: Chair Newton read Article 30. Copies of the ordinance will be at the Deliberative Session and at the voting booths. Board previously voted not to recommend as a Selectboard article. Discussion followed regarding how this article would discourage committee and board participation.  

MOTION: By Selectman Barney  
To Not Recommend Article 30.  
SECOND: By Selectman Sharps  
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)  
MOTION PASSED  

- Article 31, Petitioned – Grafton County Senior Citizens Council: Chair Newton read Article 31. No further discussion.  

MOTION: By Selectman Sharps  
To Recommend Article 31.  
SECOND: By Vice Chair Lamos  
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)  
MOTION PASSED  

- Article 32, Petitioned – Tri-County Community Action Grafton County: Chair Newton read Article 32. No further discussion.  

MOTION: By Vice Chair Lamos  
To Recommend Article 32.  
SECOND: By Selectman Sharps  
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)  
MOTION PASSED  

- Article 33, Petitioned – Genesis Behavioral Health: Chair Newton read Article 33. No further discussion.  

MOTION: By Selectman Sharps  
To Recommend Article 33.  
SECOND: By Vice Chair Lamos  
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)  
MOTION PASSED  

- Article 34, Petitioned – Communities for Alcohol and Drug Free Youth (Cady): Chair Newton read Article 34. No further discussion.  

MOTION: By Selectman Sharps  
To Recommend Article 33.  
SECOND: By Selectman Barney
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

- Article 35, Petitioned – Pemigewasset River Local Advisory Committee (PRLAC): Chair Newton read Article 35. As the liaison to this committee, Selectman Sharps offered that this is a very important committee which has been fighting Northern Pass since 2015. No further discussion.

MOTION: By Vice Chair Lamos
To Recommend Article 35.
SECOND: By Selectman Sharps
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

- Article 36, Petitioned – Voices Against Violence: Chair Newton read Article 36. No further discussion.

MOTION: By Vice Chair Lamos
To Recommend Article 35.
SECOND: By Selectman Sharps
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

- Article 37, Petitioned – Ashland 150th Committee: Chair Newton read Article 37. No further discussion.

MOTION: By Selectman Sharps
To Recommend Article 37.
SECOND: By Vice Chair Lamos
VOTE: 4-0 (All in favor)
MOTION PASSED

Groundwater Protection Ordinance
Discussion on the Planning Board Groundwater Protection Ordinance ensued. Salt storage and contamination from roads in the protected well head was discussed.

LIAISON REPORTS
- Selectman Sharps reported on Planning Board meetings
- Vice Chair Lamos reported on Budget Committee meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Susan MacLeod spoke on how ordinances which have been put into place in Ashland have gone through a series of Public Hearings and noted this has not happened with the Rights Based Ordinance (Article 29). Kathleen DeWolfe added that this ordinance is unenforceable among other concerns.

There being no other business, Selectman Sharps made Motion to adjourn at 8:13 PM, Selectman Barney seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Smith
January 19, 2018