	ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN
	WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES
	<b>THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2019</b>
	ASHLAND UTILITY BUILDING
	9:00 A.M.
	9:00 A.M.
т	CALL TO ORDER
1.	CALL IU ORDER
	Chairman of the Board Fran Newton opened the meeting at 9 a.m. and Vice Chairman
	Kathleen DeWolfe, Selectman Eli Badger, and Selectman Sharps were present. Selectman
	Barney had a prior engagement and was absent. Town Manager Smith was also present.
	Damey had a prior engagement and was absent. Town Manager Smith was also present.
П	NEW BUSINESS
	a. <b>Public Relations</b> – note; prior to the start of discussion on this topic Chairman
	Newton recused herself as the matter involved her husband David Toth. On David's
	recent application for appointment to public bodies (CIP, Economic Development, and
	ZBA) he expressed interest in public relations. David recommended that the
	Selectmen create a position for town public relations. Vice Chairman DeWolfe
	recommended that public relations be included with Economic Development
	Committee. Selectman Badger concurred and included having P/R would be
	beneficial for the Town Manager. Board members are to work on topics and goals
	that should work best for town relations and if they move forward would consider
	David to help on these subject matters.
	b. Ashland Historical Society (AHS) – Selectmen addressed a letter from AHS about
	installing a dehumidifier in the basement of the Whipple House. (All alterations on
	the property are to have preapproval of the Board). Selectmen have asked for further
	details about the installation before deciding.
	i. At the recent Selectmen meeting DPW mentioned the "Old Town Clock" was in storage which DPW would like to clean the building to use for their
	equipment. Director Moore asked if AHS would consider taking the clock.
	AHS was receptive and formally asked in the AHS memo. Board agreed to
	donate the clock to AHS.
	MOTION: Selectman Sharps
	To donate the old town clock to AHS.
	SECOND: Chairman Newton
	<b>VOTE:</b> 4-0
	MOTION PASSED
	c. Town Manager
	i. Town auditors – Town Manager Smith brokered the conversation with the
	Selectmen about changing the town auditors next fiscal year as the current
	agreement with Melanson Heath has expired.
	I.

1		<b>ii.</b> Town manager contract – Town Manager Smith to work on drafting a
2		contract for the position. Board to review and vote with a full board.
3		
4		d. Board of Selectmen Rules of Procedure – the Board reviewed the rules from 2013
5		and voted to void the policy for the time being. Board's going to have a work session
6		to adopt new rules of procedure and hold a public meeting to go over legal definitions,
7		official Selectmen duties and procedures.
8		i. Note: Selectman Sharps attached comments about this subject which are
9		written below.
10		
11		MOTION: Chairman Newton
12		To null and void the 2013 Board of Selectmen rules of procedure.
13		SECOND: Selectman Sharps
14		<b>VOTE:</b> 4-0
15		MOTION PASSED
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17		e. Former Ashland Electric Commissioners nonpublic meeting minutes – board
18		agreed to review the Commissioners sealed nonpublic minutes and determine whether
19		they should be unsealed.
20		arey broad of anotatod.
21		MOTION: Selectman Badger
22		To review the former Electric Commissioners nonpublic minutes.
23		SECOND: Selectman Sharps
23 24		VOTE: 4-0
24 25		MOTION PASSED
25 26		MOTIONTASSED
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27	III.	Selectmen Sharps comments about the Board of Selectmen Rules of Procedure:
28		"The Density of a maximum of the state of Density of the section o
29		"The Board reviewed a previous Selectmen Rules of Procedure policy written in 2011,
30		adopted 2011, amended in 2013, but neither adopted in 2013 and there are no further dates
31		and no signatures. The Board unanimously vote to "null and void" the document though
32		NHMA said it was unnecessary and had become ineffective in 2014 when a new five-man
33		board was seated. The 2014 board through 2019 board did not and have not approved or
34		adopted any new rules of procedure which must be voted on at a meeting. The board also
35		unanimously vote to "null and void" a lengthier Board of Procedure document, which had no
36		signatures and no date at all, no recorded adoption or vote on it either. These decisions are
37		now permanent. The board discussed writing new procedures, briefly, but no decisions were
38		made at this time. If one is adopted, it is noted, it is a board issue not the publics and does not
39		require a public hearing (as draft mins said). Selectman Sharps suggested at a future meeting
40		in public and both for the board and public's benefit the board go over some legal terms, such
41		as abstain, chair duties, board member duties, etc. and revisit the "public comment" section
42		on the agendas, which was voted on to adopt in 2017."
43		
44	IV.	Board of Selectmen adjourned their meeting at 11:05 a.m.
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46	Town	Manager Charles Smith wrote these meeting minutes on May 23, 2019.