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**TOWN OF ASHLAND
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2020
ASHLAND TOWN OFFICE
5:30 P.M.**

Note: this meeting was conducted over zoom video and tele conference, per the Governor's Emergency Order #12 (in relation to Covid -19) which waived the physical presence of board members (RSA 91-A2, III (b)).

- I. CALL TO ORDER** – Town of Ashland Chairman of the Board Eli Badger called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with a roll call; Chairman Eli Badger, Vice Chairman Kathleen DeWolfe and Selectman Alan Cilley were present via zoom video with Selectman Frances Newton and Selectman Jamie Lyford attended using the teleconference.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Selectman Newton

To approve the meeting minutes of April 6, 2020.

SECOND: Vice Chairman DeWolfe

DISCUSSION: Selectman Cilley revised the minutes to reflect his position about the vote on hazardous pay.

VOTE: 5-0

MOTION PASSED

III. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Ashland Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) appointment interview:** The Board interviewed applicant, Charlie Bozzello, for a ZBA position. Mr. Bozzello provided an application, resume, and discussed his prior experience serving on a ZBA in another town. Board appointed Mr. Bozzello as a regular member for a three-year term and after he took his oath of office.

MOTION: Vice Chairman DeWolfe

To appoint Charlie Bozzello for a three-year term as a regular member to the Ashland Zoning Board of Adjustment, effective May 1st, 2020.

SECOND: Selectman Newton

VOTE: 5 – 0

MOTION PASSED

- b. **Ashland 4th of July Committee (4JC)** – members from the Ashland 4th of July Committee were present to discuss with the Board other possible events should the 4th of July celebrations are cancelled from the Covid-19 virus. 4JC Member Kendall Hughes said the committee tried to focus on other options so the town could do something for the day. Other options mentioned, the town could have a reverse parade

1 instead of a regular parade, and/or a backyard barbeque. Pancake breakfast would not
2 happen if there was not a parade. 4JC discussed putting the celebration off a month or
3 two instead of having it in July. Fire Department needs 15-day notice before firework
4 setup, Police Department need minimum four weeks to get parade permit from the state
5 (parade route is through a state road) and six weeks to setup police details. Committee
6 members requested that before a final decision about the event was made, the board wait
7 until May 4th and hear what the Governor says about releasing the stay at home order.
8 A few board members had concerns that the event could allow for large groups
9 congregating during this pandemic, others appreciated the options presented and wanted
10 the board to make the best decision for the health and safety of the public. Further
11 discussion about the event was tabled until next board meeting on May 4th – the
12 Committee members were invited to attend.
13

- 14 c. **Ashland Water & Sewer State Revolving Fund (SRF) applications** – Town
15 Manager Smith presented the Selectmen two SRF applications for lending, with the
16 funds to be used to implement energy audit measures (\$100K) and a facility analysis
17 (\$75K), both at the wastewater treatment plant. The town submitted preapplications
18 last June in order to make the NHDES Clean Water SRF Priority List, being on the list,
19 which the town was approved in the fall, allows applicants to receive principal
20 forgiveness. The facility analysis application can receive up to 100% forgiveness and
21 the energy audit measure has 50% forgiveness plus up to 35% energy efficiency credits.
22 Loan applications needed prior town approval. Town vote in March approved the
23 applications (Warrant articles 3 and 8). Board designated Town Manager Smith to apply
24 for the SRF's – the application for the energy audit measures is due May 1st and the
25 facility analysis due by June 30th.
26

27 **MOTION:** Selectman Newton

28 *To designate Town Manager Smith as the authorized representative to apply for and*
29 *sign on behalf of the town for the SRF loan application (\$100K) that will implement*
30 *energy audit measures at the treatment plant.*

31 **SECOND:** Vice Chairman DeWolfe

32 **VOTE:** 5 – 0

33 **MOTION PASSED**
34

35 **MOTION:** Selectman Newton

36 *To designate Town Manager Smith as the authorized representative to apply for and*
37 *sign on behalf of the town for the SRF loan application (\$75K) to assess the lagoons.*

38 **SECOND:** Vice Chairman DeWolfe

39 **VOTE:** 5 – 0

40 **MOTION PASSED**
41

- 42 d. **Ashland Parks & Recreation; opening of the campground** – because of the stay at
43 home order by the Governor (coronavirus) Director Barney asked the Board for
44 direction on whether to open the campground on May 1st. Conversation among the
45 members focused on whether the decision should be tabled until after May 4th, installing
46 signage about delaying the opening, postponing the opening completely, turning on the

1 utilities before opening, and not allowing new construction at the campground.
2 Consensus of the board was unless otherwise noted to not open the campground until
3 June 1st and no new construction will be allowed until opening. Roll call vote (no
4 motion was made) tallied 4 – 1 (Selectman Cilley voted nay).
5

- 6 e. **Town Manager updates** – Town Manager Smith updated the board about upcoming
7 department projects in town. In particular, the new playground being installed at the
8 park, new tennis, and basketball courts, paving at the wastewater treatment plant and on
9 Thompson Street, and the new police car is ready for pickup.

10
11 **IV. SELECTBOARD ITEMS**

- 12 a. **Ashland Community Garden** – Chairman Badger asked other board members the
13 plan for the garden this year. Board to revisit the topic at their next meeting in May.
14

- 15 **V. ADJOURNED** – the Board of Selectmen adjourned their meeting at 7:13 p.m. and will
16 reconvene on Monday, May 4, 2020.
17

18 *On behalf of the Ashland Board of Selectmen Town Manager Charles Smith wrote these meeting*
19 *minutes on April 21, 2020.*