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**TOWN OF ASHLAND
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, MAY 4, 2020
ASHLAND TOWN OFFICE
5:30 P.M.**

Note: this meeting was conducted over zoom video and teleconference, per the exception provided by the Governor's Emergency Order #12 (in relation to Covid -19) that 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, Selectmen Frances Newton, Alan Cilley, and Jamie Lyford were all present via the video and teleconference. *At the start of the meeting Selectman Cilley had connection issues and joined after the board voted on the meeting minutes and interest abatement.*

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Selectman Newton

To approve the meeting minutes of April 20, 2020.

SECOND: Vice Chairman DeWolfe

DISCUSSION: Vice Chairman DeWolfe had two grammatical changes on page three.

VOTE: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

III. NEW BUSINESS

a. Ashland Water & Sewer

- i. Remove and inspect the pumping equipment at Well #2** – Superintendent Cross provided the annual inspection report for wells number one and two. Report was conducted by Weston & Sampson. The well performance at both wells was lower than expected. As part of the inspection report Weston & Sampson provided a proposal for \$17,830 to repair well number two. Scope of services from the proposal; pull the pump, test the motor, inspect, clean, flush out, disinfect, and make repairs to get a better flow rate. Well number one had a similar procedure a few years ago. Once the project is completed the well should be functional for another ten years. Annual inspections on the electrical motor will continue.

b. Ashland Town Clerk/Tax Collector (TC/TX)

- i. Unpaid Tax Bill Abatement** – in the December 2019 property tax billing a payment (map 001-002-002-012C) was mistakenly returned to the mortgage holder issuing a lien and interest in error. The bill was paid in the amount \$1,881.13 with \$132.11 accruing interest. Tax Collector Tucker requested the board abate the interest.

1
2 **MOTION:** Selectman Newton
3 *To abate the sum of \$132.11 (as of 4/30/2020) which represents the unpaid*
4 *interests.*

5 **SECOND:** Vice Chairman DeWolfe

6 **VOTE:** 4 – 0

7 **MOTION PASSED**

- 8
9 ii. **Deputy Town Clerk appointment** – Town Clerk Tucker received four
10 applications for the open appointed Deputy Town Clerk position. TC Tucker
11 recommended the board appoint applicant Jeanette Stewart. Board requested to
12 interview the applicant before voting on the appointment.

13
14 c. **Ashland Police Department**

- 15 i. **Police Car Capital Reserve Fund (CRF) expenditure** – Police Chief Ulwick
16 forwarded a proposal from Ossipee Mountain Electronics to expend \$7,999.98
17 from the Police Car CRF to upfit the new police admin cruiser. Installation of
18 the parts (lights, radar, siren, etc.) would take place in a couple of months as the
19 parts are not in stock and need to be ordered.

20
21 **MOTION:** Selectman Newton

22 *To release \$7,999.98 from the Police Car CRF for the upfitting of the new police*
23 *car.*

24 **SECOND:** Vice Chairman DeWolfe

25 **DISCUSSION:** Selectman Lyford had issue with the car being a civilian
26 vehicle and not a standard police cruiser that has different car specifications.
27 Chief Ulwick concurred that the car was a basic package, not a front-line car
28 that would need those specifications. Selectman Lyford also had concerns with
29 the car being unmarked.

30 **VOTE:** 4 – 1

31 **MOTION PASSED**

- 32
33 ii. **Police Hazardous Pay** – the Board decided not to extend the police hazardous
34 pay stipend at this time as earlier in the day, as part of the CARE Act, the
35 Governor issued hazard stipend pay to first responders.

- 36
37 d. **Ashland Memorial Park Trustee reappointment** – current member Stephen Jaquith
38 applied to be reappointed as a Memorial Park Trustee. Board thanked Stephen for his
39 prior service and voted his reappointment for a three-year term. Chairman Badger read
40 the oath of office after the appointment.

41
42 **MOTION:** Vice Chairman DeWolfe

43 *To appoint Stephen Jaquith for a three-year term as an Ashland Memorial Park Trustee.*

44 **SECOND:** Selectman Newton

45 **VOTE:** 5 – 0

1 **MOTION PASSED**

2
3 e. **Ashland 4th of July Committee** – members of the committee were present to continue
4 the discussion with the board about holding the event this coming July. Committee
5 member Kendall Hughes asked the board to wait on deciding until June 1st, the next
6 expected announcement from the Governor about whether to remove the current stay at
7 home order. Board agreed to wait until June 1st.

8
9 f. **Ashland Park & Recreation Campground** – Park & Recreation Director Barney
10 asked the Board to reopen the campground May 15th, prior to the June 1st date previously
11 voted upon by the board. (Earlier in the day the Governor relaxed the provisions about
12 campgrounds reopening during the pandemic). Director Barney proposed that if the
13 campground were to reopen earlier than expected, the bathhouse would remain closed,
14 as would the beach, and there would not be access to the washer and dryers. If possible,
15 later this summer the beach, bathhouse, etc. would open.

16
17 **MOTION:** Selectman Newton
18 *To reopen the campground on May 15th under the conditions the bathhouse and other*
19 *amenities remain closed, and the building restrictions are to remain in effect.*

20 **SECOND:** Vice Chairman DeWolfe

21 **VOTE:** 4 – 1

22 **MOTION PASSED**

23
24 **IV. SELECTBOARD ITEMS**

25 a. **Ashland Community Garden** – Selectman Newton had a conference call with a few
26 volunteers that wanted to keep the garden open with the expectations of reopening it to
27 the community. Those involved are going to create a plan on how to reopen and forward
28 it to the board. Gardeners requested the use of town water at the site, board did not take
29 exception to the request. Previous grant funding for the garden site are no longer
30 available, but tools for gardening or planting flowers are still available for volunteers.
31 Selectman Newton will continue to be the liaison for this group and asked the public if
32 they are interested in gardening to please contact the town office. Site has 20 plots
33 available.

34
35 **MOTION:** Vice Chairman DeWolfe
36 *To allow a water supply at the community garden.*

37 **SECOND:** Selectman Cilley

38 **VOTE:** 4 – 0 – 1

39 **MOTION PASSED**

40
41 b. **Annual review of town investment policy** – per RSA 41: 9, VII the town should have
42 investment policy. The board reviewed the town’s investment policy and did not
43 recommend any changes.

44
45 **MOTION:** Selectman Newton
46 *To accept the town investment policy as written.*

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SECOND: Vice Chairman DeWolfe
VOTE: 5 – 0
MOTION PASSED

V. ADJOURNED – the Board of Selectmen adjourned their meeting at 7:01 p.m. and will reconvene at their next meeting on Monday, May 18, 2020.

On behalf of the Ashland Board of Selectmen Town Manager Charles Smith wrote these meeting minutes on May 6, 2020.