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.
MOTION: Selectman Newton  
To abate the sum of $132.11 (as of 4/30/2020) which represents the unpaid interests.  
SECOND: Vice Chairman DeWolfe  
VOTE: 4 – 0  
MOTION PASSED  

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

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

MOTION: Selectman Newton  
To release $7,999.98 from the Police Car CRF for the upfitting of the new police car.  
SECOND: Vice Chairman DeWolfe  
DISCUSSION: Selectman Lyford had issue with the car being a civilian vehicle and not a standard police cruiser that has different car specifications. Chief Ulwick concurred that the car was a basic package, not a front-line car that would need those specifications. Selectman Lyford also had concerns with the car being unmarked.  
VOTE: 4 – 1  
MOTION PASSED  

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

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

MOTION: Vice Chairman DeWolfe  
To appoint Stephen Jaquith for a three-year term as an Ashland Memorial Park Trustee.  
SECOND: Selectman Newton  
VOTE: 5 – 0
MOTION PASSED

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

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

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

**SECOND:** Vice Chairman DeWolfe
**VOTE:** 4 – 1

**MOTION PASSED**

IV. **SELECTBOARD ITEMS**

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

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

**SECOND:** Selectman Cilley
**VOTE:** 4 – 0 – 1

**MOTION PASSED**

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

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