I. CALL TO ORDER – Town of Ashland Chairman of the Board Eli Badger called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and requested a roll call of the Selectmen; Vice Chairman Kathleen DeWolfe, Selectman Frances Newton, Selectman Alan Cilley and Chairman Eli Badger all acknowledged they were present via the video conference, constituting a quorum of the board. Chairman Badger notified attendees that the meeting was occurring over video and teleconference, a provision authorized by the Governor’s Emergency Order #12 that waived the physical presence of board members during the Covid-19 pandemic.

II. PUBLIC HEARING
   a. Sale of town land (property lot off Winter Street); Chairman Badger opened the public hearing at 5:31 p.m. for public comment about the potential sale of a town owned lot off Winter Street. Per RSA 41:14-a this was the board’s second public hearing on the potential sale of town owned land. Ashland resident David Ruell asked if the property was owned by the paper mill. Through deed research, surveyor Anthony Randall, who was representing the potential buyer Commerce Properties, confirmed the property was not owned by the paper mill. Commerce Properties was offering to buy the land for $1,000 through a quitclaim deed that waives liability for the town. Board closed the public hearing at 5:41 p.m.

   MOTION: Vice Chairman DeWolfe
   To approve the sale of town owned land off Winter Street to Commerce Properties for $1,000 with the conditions that Commerce Properties also pay for the quick claim deed and recording fees.
   SECOND: Selectman Newton
   VOTE: 4 – 0
   MOTION PASSED

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

   MOTION: Selectman Newton
   To approve the meeting minutes of August 3, 2020 as amended.
   SECOND: Vice Chairman DeWolfe
   DISCUSSION: Board removed “being alone at the utility building” on page 3, line 23 and 24.
   VOTE: 4 – 0
   MOTION PASSED
IV. NEW BUSINESS

a. NHDOT Bridge Design, Jerry Zoller, P.E.: next fiscal year New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) is proposing repainting two state bridges in town; bridge 2-3 off exit 24 and bridge 4, near North Ashland Road. Repainting the bridge next year is contingent on the funds being in DOT’s budget, Jerry Zoller confirmed the expectations are the funds should be available, total cost for the project is an estimate $3 million. If the project does not move forward this year it would be pushed back to 2022. Each project should take about 8-10 weeks to complete. NHDOT has proposed lane closure. NHDOT requested the town sign a “work zone agreement” that grants oversite of the project to NHDOT. Before the project goes to construction NHDOT will have a public hearing with the town.

b. Ashland Parks & Recreation

i. After School Program: Ashland Parks & Recreation Director Barney forwarded a plan to the Board of Selectmen about reopening the After-School Program. Director Barney worked with the School on what would work best to reopen, which is like what the department used in reopening the Summer Camp Program. Maximum attendance for the program will be 15 enrollees. Children attending will wear masks while in the building, hands sanitized, temperatures taken, tables are separated for social distancing (Fire Chief reviewed floor plan), and equipment at the building will be sanitized at end of day. Program will not restart until after Labor Day.

MOTION: Selectman Newton
To approve the plan submitted by Parks and Recreation to reopen After School Program.
SECOND: Vice Chairman DeWolfe
VOTE: 4 – 0
MOTION PASSED

ii. Use of Town Beach: a local church approached Director Barney about having a “baptizing” function and using the facility electric, bathroom, etc. Director Barney informed the church that the beach was closed for the season but would ask the Board about an exception. Being that the beach was closed, summer staff no longer available to clean the facilities, and not wanting to make exceptions the board voted to keep the beach closed for the season.

MOTION: Vice Chairman DeWolfe
To officially close the town beach for the summer and facility not available for functions.
SECOND: Selectman Newton
VOTE: 4 – 0
MOTION PASSED
c. **Vendor Permit Application:** the company “Wicked Eats” applied for a vendor permit to operate a food truck selling breakfast type on Sharps Lane. Wicked Eats intends on operating their breakfast truck Friday through Sunday from 6:30 a.m. to 10 a.m. and closing for the season November 1st. Board approved the application.

**MOTION:** Vice Chairman DeWolfe

To accept and approve the vendor permit application for Wicked Eats.

**SECOND:** Selectman Newton

**VOTE:** 4 – 0

**MOTION PASSED**

V. **OLD BUSINESS**

a. **Ashland Trustees of the Trust Funds/Scribner Trust:** for general knowledge as managers of the prudential investments of the town, Trustee Amanda Loud forwarded the board proposals from vendors to repair the oil tank at the Scribner Building. Apparently, the filler pipe has a hole which is causing water to leak into the line and contaminating the oil tank. To help save with costs as Trustee Loud mentioned the Scribner Trust was depleting and did not financially appreciate since the trust’s inception, Public Works will help dig up the line for repairs. Trustee Loud also asked if the board would release the legal opinion about nonpublic meetings to the Trustees; consensus of the board was to allow the email to be forward to Trustees.

VI. **SELECTBOARD ITEMS**

a. **River Street Crosswalk:** Public Works Director Moore was approached by residents about installing a cross walk on River Street. Board did not object to the request. Public Works to also research into installing permanent “No Parking” signs along the street.

b. **Interviews for vacant Selectman position:** The Board interviewed applicants “Andy Fitch” and “Bob Letourneau” for the vacant Selectman position. Both applicants provided a background and answered questions on why they are a good selection. Term for the position would only be until the next election in March. Board to consider a vote on the applicants at their meeting in September.

c. **September 8th Primary:** The Board provided the public an update about safety precautions being taken during the pandemic for voters at next months state primary.

VII. **ADJOURNED** – the Board of Selectmen adjourned their meeting at 7:49 p.m. and will reconvene at their next meeting on Monday, September 14, 2020. Note: generally, the board meets on the first and third Monday of each month. Since the first Monday in September is a holiday (Labor Day) and the state primary the following day (September 8th) their first meeting in September was moved to the following week.