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**TOWN OF ASHLAND
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2020
ASHLAND TOWN OFFICE
5:30 P.M.**

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, Selectman Andy Fitch and Chairman Eli Badger all acknowledged they were present via the video conference. 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. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Selectman Newton

To approve the meeting minutes of September 14, 2020 as amended.

SECOND: Vice Chairman DeWolfe

DISCUSSION: Vice Chairman DeWolfe recommended a few grammatical changes.

VOTE: 4 – 0 – 1 (Fitch abstained; not appointed at time of meeting)

MOTION PASSED

III. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Plymouth State University use of the Quality Inn** – Marlin Collingwood, VP Communications, from PSU met with the board to address the public concern about PSU using the Quality Inn as a location for quarantine and isolation of Covid-19 patients. PSU has an agreement with Quality Inn to use the entire building. Marlin mentioned that PSU conducts about 4,000 Covid tests weekly. Students are in school until November 22nd and return at the end of January 2021, the inn will not be used by PSU during that timeframe. Currently nine students are quarantined at the inn because of either recent travel or being in close contact with someone that contracted Covid. Quarantined patients at the inn are generally there for 24 to 48 hours and released after a negative test. Students under isolation are not allowed to leave the inn. PSU provides the inn and students with staffing, food, and transportation. PSU was asked if they could assure quarantined students do not leave the Quality Inn, as was allowed by PSU but with limitations, Marlin said PSU would make sure quarantined students do not leave the inn. PSU will post daily updates about Covid testing and are willing to have future meetings with the board.
- b. **Use of park during after school program** – as continuation from their previous meeting the Selectmen discussed opening the park during the hours of operation for the Ashland after school program. Ashland Parks & Recreation Director Barney asked the board if they would consider opening the park during the hours (2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.)

1 for town residents only. Board clarified for the public that the entire park was not closed.
2 Majority of the board preferred to stand by their original decision of having the park
3 basketball courts and playground closed during the hours the after-school program was
4 in effect. Board revoted on the measure.

5
6 **MOTION:** Selectman Newton

7 *To restrict the use of the L.W. Packard Field basketball courts and playground during*
8 *the hours of 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday while the after-school*
9 *programs was in session.*

10 **SECOND:** Chairman Badger

11 **VOTE:** 4 – 1

12 **MOTION PASSED**

13
14 c. **Ashland Trustees of the Trust Funds** – town Trustee Amanda Loud asked the board
15 if they would permit the Trustees to ask town legal counsel about dissolving a trust fund.
16 Trustees have two funds, Crimmings Berry and Green Grove Cemetery, that have not
17 been active for years and the Trustees believe the rightful ownership belongs with the
18 cemetery. Trustees are to compile a list of questions around the subject before
19 submitting to legal. Trustee Dave Toth provided a power point presentation about the
20 acceptance of gifts to the town. Board took the recommendations under consideration.
21 Trustees also updated the public on how they will manage the trust funds.

22
23 d. **Halloween, Trick or Treat** – consensus of the board was not to sponsor Halloween
24 events this year because of Covid. Chief Ulwick had a school safety committee meeting
25 and the committee was going to recommend to the School Board not to have a
26 Halloween parade. Chief Ulwick provided recommendations to the public on how to
27 be safe if they decide to partake in trick or treating. Halloween is not an official town
28 event.

29
30 **IV. NON-PUBLIC SESSION**

31 a. **MOTION:** Selectman Newton

32 *To enter nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3, II (d).*

33 **SECOND:** Selectman Fitch

34 **VOTE:** 5 – 0

35 **MOTION PASSED**

36 **ENTERED:** 7:22 p.m.

37 **RECONVENED:** 8:04 p.m.

38 **ANNOUNCEMENT:** Board decided not to renegotiate the power purchase agreement
39 with New Hampton Village Present.

40
41
42 **V. ADJOURNED** – the Board of Selectmen adjourned their meeting at 8:05 p.m.