

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN WORKSESSION MINUTES**  
**MONDAY OCTOBER 20, 2014**  
**ASHLAND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY**  
**7:00 pm**

Chairman DeWolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm with a roll call. Jeanette Stewart, Fran Newton, Steve Felton, Norm DeWolfe, Phil Preston, present.

Others Present: Paul Branscombe, Pat Crowell, and members of the public.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Norm DeWolfe volunteered to be the representative from Ashland for the LRPC Scenic Byway Committee.

Town Administrator Updates

PRIMEX Safety Report – Electric Department is the only department that TA Branscombe has not heard from. All other departments are all set.

Campground Trailer reimbursement of monies owed – TA Branscombe said that the town's attorney is still checking.

DRED raft, river walk – Branscombe reported that Jim Gleich has distributed a punch list to Public Works of the various things that need to be done, including fence repair. Several questions came up regarding raft. The raft had been taken out a few years ago because it was in disrepair and PRIMEX recommended that it not be put back.

Energy Efficiency audits – Branscombe reported that all town buildings have been reviewed. NH Electric Co-op will be meeting here on Wednesday to discuss the lights in the Town Office. We could replace the lights that we have with more energy efficient lights and receive a 50% rebate.

Moo Corner Bridge – October 27<sup>th</sup> is the start date to replace the bridge which will take about 11 days. Chairman DeWolfe mentioned that he was at the bridge the other day and saw Fred Salvoni. Ledgepak has not been put down yet and the rocks will be removed by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

CDBG grant for Town Hall Improvements – The grant is about \$40,000 and is a 1 – 1 match.

Mechanic Street Parking – After some discussion, the Board decided to leave it the same way as last year. Felton moved to leave the overnight parking ban in place to be effective November 1<sup>st</sup>. Stewart seconded. All in favor 5-0

Next Step – Ashland Properties – The Chairman updated the Board, he said that the next step per RSA 155B:7 is enforcement of the order. The Town could lien any property that the owner has in the State of NH. Asked Branscombe to search Registry of Deeds. Newton mentioned a \$200,000 grant for brownfields. It is due October 31<sup>st</sup>, will meet with Tony Gunta, formerly of DES, soon.

Priority Table – Newton has added a few items to this list. Felton asked about Utility Partners and if there was any news from them regarding the Public Works Dept. Branscombe replied that Dave Sircle has not gotten back to him. IT provider comparisons will be discussed at the next meeting.

Citizen Log updates – Branscombe mentioned that a resident had complained about dog “poop” in a parking lot on Park Way. The Board said that the resident should contact the land owner.

Newton would like Tim Paquette to drive by Thompson St. There is a meeting this week regarding a property there and would like some input from him. Steve Heath will write something regarding life safety concerns also.

Felton asked if things that needed to be worked on at the Booster Club had been done. Branscombe said that he not been down in the basement of the Booster Club but will monitor the situation.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Norm DeWolfe recused himself. Newton moved to appoint Kathleen DeWolfe to the Conservation Commission. Stewart seconded. All in favor 4-0.

Warrant Article Preparation – Branscombe reported that he is meeting with the department heads on October 29.

Election Day Coverage – Chairman DeWolfe asked the Board what their hours would be at the polls on November 4<sup>th</sup>. The Board will get back to him with their schedules.

#### SELECTBOARD ITEMS

BOS review/approval of Personnel Policy Committee recommendations – The Board discussed several parts of the Policy with some minor clarifications. Chairman DeWolfe asked about the retiree’s contribution to their health insurance. After some discussion, Felton moved to approve that the retirees pay the same amount to their health insurance that the non-union personnel do, which would be 10% as of January 1, 2015. Newton seconded. Stewart did not agree. Preston abstained. In favor 3-1-1 After the changes are done, the Board will vote on the Personnel Policy at the next meeting on 11-3-14.

2015 Budgeting Update – Revisions- The Board discussed the changes to the line items in the new budget: Computer Expenses, Internet/Cable, LRPC, Postage, Finance Postage, Tax Collector Expense, Legal, Fire Department Supplies, Mechanic Life Insurance, Health Insurance Retirees, were discussed.

There being no further business, Felton moved to go into Non-Public Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Newton seconded. The time is 8:50 pm. The Board decided to take a two minute break.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Crowell  
10/27/14