

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN WORKSESSION  
MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2015  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY**

**MINUTES**

Chairman DeWolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM with a roll call. Steve Felton, Leigh Sharps, Fran Newton, Phil Preston, Normand DeWolfe.

Others Present: Pat Crowell

The Chairman invited Katie Maher to the table. She spoke about the Whitten House and Reuben Whitten in particular. The Historical Society would like to propose a town wide celebration during the week of June 5, 2016. She would like the Board to do a proclamation in recognition of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of “the year without a summer”.

Maher also spoke about the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. She feels that town wide celebrations such as the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and the town wide yard sale need to be under the control of the town. She would like an ordinance in place for vendors that are not authorized. The Board feels that legal needs to be involved.

Mark Liebert spoke about the cleanup at the Booster Club. The AARA (Ashland Area Recreation Association) has been working there for almost a week. Mark would like \$500 from the Park & Rec budget for miscellaneous items used for the cleanup. Mr Liebert thanked the Public Works Dept. for their help. He also asked about having a yard sale or donating some items. Newton moved to allow up to \$500 be used for miscellaneous items. Sharps seconded. All in favor.

**Signature File** – The town has paid a vendor, Vision, over \$5350 in error. The Chairman explained Vision would like to know if we want a refund or if we want to use this for 2016 billing. The Board decided that it would be better and less confusing to ask for a refund. Newton moved to request a refund from Vision. Felton seconded. All in favor.

**Old Business**

**Current Issue Log/Priority Table** – Sharps asked about the beach sand replenishment. Newton said that the paperwork needs to be redone and that she is working with Kathleen DeWolfe of the Conservation Commission. The top and bottom steps of the fire escape at the Town Office need to be replaced. Steve Heath is working on this. She also asked about the asbestos on the tiles on the stairs at the town office. The contractor has been asked to submit an estimate for the Police Dept side and the town office side separately. Felton asked about Ashland Funded Projects. The Board will follow up on this.

**Financial Review** – The Board reviewed the reports. The Chairman said that so far this year the town has spent 59% of its budget. He mentioned that the budget process starts in September.

**Town Administrator Search Update** – The Chairman said that there were 14 applicants, and they have interviewed 8. Three have been called back for a second interview.

**Park & Rec Director** – DeWolfe stated that they hired a new Park & Rec Director today. Her name is Ann Barney. He stated that she is very familiar with the program.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**RFP for Auditing** – The Board has an example from another town as a model. The Chairman also stated that NHMA has a template on their website. Newton and Felton will work on this.

**RFP for Legal** – There is no template, but we can look at the one from Hudson as a model.

Newton and Felton will work on this one also.

**Ordinance Action #2** – The Board thanked Patsy Tucker for all her hard work on the ordinances. These ones need to have a public hearing. The Public Hearing will be held before the Selectmen's meeting on September 9, 2015.

Preston mentioned that he had received an email in regard to the request from the Grafton County Senior Citizens Council. The Board decided that the Capital Reserve requests should be disbursed. DeWolfe motioned to authorize disbursements of capital requests. Preston seconded. All in favor.

## **SELECTBOARD ITEMS**

David Toth spoke about the CIP committee. He will have an update for the Selectmen at their next meeting. He said that they will be recommending key investments. A Financial Forum is scheduled, he will have more information at the next meeting.

DeWolfe mentioned that the ad for paving is in the paper.

There being no other business, **Newton moved to go into Non-Public Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II (b) at 7:40 PM.** Sharps seconded. All in favor 5-0 **Roll Call Vote:** DeWolfe, yes; Felton, yes; Preston, yes; Newton, yes; Sharps, yes. Discussed agreement for Town Administrator. Decision was to use the same agreement as the one used for Branscombe. Newton moved to leave non-public session at 8:07 PM. Felton seconded. All in favor. 5-0

Newton moved to leave non-public session and reconvene public session at 8:09 PM. Felton seconded. All in favor. Decision was to use the same agreement as the one used for Branscombe.

**Newton moved to go into Non-Public Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II (c) at 8:09 PM.** Felton seconded. All in favor 5-0 **Roll Call Vote:** DeWolfe, yes; Felton, yes; Preston, yes; Newton, yes; Sharps, yes. Bob Flanders also present. Discussed complaint letter with Bob Flanders. Newton moved to leave non-public session at 8:41 PM. DeWolfe seconded. All in favor. 5-0

Newton moved to leave non-public session and reconvene public session at 8:41 PM. Felton seconded. All in favor. Decision to write letter to the DeGraces, Newton will do draft.

There being no further business, Preston moved to adjourn at 8:42 PM. DeWolfe seconded. All in favor 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Crowell  
8-20-15