

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 4, 2016
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY**

MINUTES

Chairman DeWolfe called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM with a roll call. Steve Felton, Norm DeWolfe, Leigh Sharps, Phil Preston, present.

Others Present: Town Administrator Heather Thibodeau and Pat Crowell

APPROVALS

Minutes of December 2, 2015 – Preston moved to approve as written. Sharps seconded. All in favor.
Minutes of December 7, 2015 – Sharps moved to approve as written. Preston seconded. Felton abstained. In favor 3-0-1
Minutes of December 9, 2015 – Preston moved to approve as written. Sharps seconded. All in favor.
Minutes of December 16, 2015 – Preston moved to approve as written. DeWolfe seconded. All in favor.
Minutes of December 21, 2015 – Felton moved to approve as written. Sharps seconded. Preston abstained. In favor 3-0-1
Minutes of December 30, 2015 – Felton moved to approve as written. DeWolfe seconded. Sharps abstained. In favor 3-0-1. Preston asked about lowering the fees for copies.

SIGNATURE FILE

Several items in the file including a loan payment, and several bills. DeWolfe asked Tim Paquette why the Board had to sign for a year of salt and sand. Paquette said that it is a blanket purchase order and the Department Heads have done this each year for quite a while now.

OLD BUSINESS

Asbestos in town hall update – Thibodeau explained that she had received a quote from an asbestos removal firm. The Board saw that the quote did not include what was to be put in place of what is being taken out. They felt that before they made a decision, they need to know how much that might be and that they would like more quotes.

Current Issue Log – The log was updated as of today. The Board reviewed the revisions and added some issues.

Budget Process Update – The Chairman asked David Ruell how many more meetings there might be. Ruell said at least two, maybe three. The School budget will be discussed on January 13th at 6:30 and the Town will be the 14th at 7 pm. DeWolfe mentioned that there will be a Public Hearing on the proposed bond for the Library this Wednesday at 6:30 here in the school library. At 7 pm the Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing for their Warrant Articles.

Warrant Article continuation – Patsy Tucker had given the Board a working draft of the Town Warrant which included some of the warrant articles. The Board will review this and talk about it at their meeting on Wednesday.

NEW BUSINESS

Intervener Status Discussion – Felton explained Intervener Status as it relates to Northern Pass. Preston said that the Board needs to take a stand. A letter will be written with input from other groups and organizations in town. February 5th is the deadline. Felton and Preston will coordinate with the Planning Dept., Water & Sewer Dept., and Conservation Commission.

Nobis Engineering Consultation proposal – Nobis Engineering has given us a Proposal for On-Call Engineering Services. Preston asked why we would need this. The Board asked Walter Durack. He suggested that having an engineer on call is beneficial. Tony Randall asked why would we need a contract? The proposal only listed 2015 prices, so would need to get 2016 prices. After much discussion, the Board decided not to sign the proposal and to get other proposals.

Conservation Commission concern – The Chairman read an email from the Kathleen DeWolfe of the Conservation Commission. The email, which included pictures of North Ashland Road on the east road shoulder adjacent to Ropewalk East Drive, states that “work done by the Public Works Dept., and/or others, has resulted in excessive earthen material washing into Cold Spring Brook. The area of concern was documented on Dec. 24, 2015. There is no physical evidence that BMPs (Best Management Practices) for erosion control were implemented to stabilize the site of tree cutting/earth disturbance. No documentation of a PBN (Permit by Notification) for roadside maintenance or ditch maintenance was requested of DES for any activity in this area. It is requested this area be stabilized immediately to prevent further erosion and runoff following the guidelines of NHDOT/NHDES BMPs for stabilization”. Tim Paquette explained that he is planning on putting erosion stone there in the Spring. He asked that anytime there is a problem with something that his department does, he be notified with a quick phone call.

Union membership CBA vote – The Chairman reported that a tentative agreement had been made by both sides, but it was voted down by the membership.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

The Fire Chief would like the Board to sign the Emergency Management Performance Grant application which he gave to the Town Administrator this afternoon. “The Town of Ashland Board of Selectmen, in a majority vote, accepted the terms of the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) as presented in the amount of \$4000 for the purpose of updating the community’s Local Emergency Operation Plan. Furthermore, the Board acknowledges that the total cost of this project will be \$8000, in which the Town will be responsible for a 50% match (\$4000).”

The Board signed and Pat Crowell notarized the document.

Great Northern Cleaning started cleaning last night.

The plumber is working at the Booster Club. A faucet needs to be replaced in the kitchen.

SELECTBOARD ITEMS

Sharps said that she had attended a meeting of the PRLAC. She gave a brief description of what had happened last year and what will be discussed this year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Walter Durack commented that there are ways to stabilize the soil on North Ashland Road in the Winter. Kathleen DeWolfe said that you can look at the DES website. She said that a Permit by Notification (PBN) should have been done on North Ashland Road.

There being no other business, **Felton moved to go into Non-Public Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II (a) at 7:54 PM.** Sharps seconded. All in favor 4-0 **Roll Call Vote:** Preston, yes; Sharps, yes; DeWolfe, yes; Felton, yes.

Respectfully Submitted,
Patricia Crowell
1-6-15