

**ASHLAND BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES**  
**MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2016**  
**ASHLAND FIRE STATION**  
**6:30 PM**

Vice-Chairman Felton called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM with a roll call. Steve Felton, Leigh Sharps, Harold Lamos, Kathleen Maher, present

Others Present: Town Administrator Charles Smith and Pat Crowell

The Board signed the Payroll and Accounts Payable Manifests and also the items in the signature file.

The Town Administrator would like to attend training for grant writing. The training is two days in Claremont. The Board all agreed he should attend.

Town Administrator Charles Smith said that there is not enough bandwidth to support the town office. It is more money to upgrade and get a faster speed but he says that we could save money in other areas. Police Chief Randall would like to do the same in his department. Smith says he has an agreement from BayRing that will save about \$144 month. The Board agreed that we need to do an assessment of all the town buildings and that this topic will be put on the Current Issue log. It is a consensus of the Board that Smith should contact Time Warner Cable to get the upgrade to faster internet.

#### OLD BUSINESS

TA Smith explained some of the issues on the Current Issue Log. Kathleen DeWolfe spoke about the Riverwalk. She said that it has been neglected for a long time. Felton said that Michelle Roberts said that Laconia has the GIS Mapping system up and running and that the Board can go over there and check it out. TA Smith will check out the lease for the Whipple House. The Board gave the OK for TA Smith to order the Adobe Software.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Amanda Loud, the Chair for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Committee spoke about the debris from the fireworks display that ended up in the backyard of the Glynn House. She said that several attempts have been made to speak to Ingrid Heidenreich but they have not been answered. The venue at the school is much better. Ms Loud also asked the Board if they could store some things at the Town Office. The Board offered the third floor at the Town Hall.

Trick or Treat hours will be the same as past years. Halloween is on a Monday this year and hours will be 5 to 7 pm.

Meeting dates for Budget review – The first meeting will be Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 am. DPW and Police will start. The Board asked for some information to be emailed to them in advance of the meetings. David Ruell of the Budget Committee said that the Police can come to their meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> after they have met with the Board.

Electric Department – Felton said that the Electric Commissioners have sent a letter to the Board saying that if the Town wants the key and the crank for the flag pole at the Booster Club, then the Town would be responsible for raising and lowering the flag. They would not be doing that anymore. Maher added that the management of the flag should extend beyond just this flag. If the Town takes over, DPW would be in charge of the flag. Kathleen DeWolfe suggested that the flag be taken down during the winter months. All board members agreed that the town will take control of the flag. Bert Sutcliff, town electrician, will be contacted regarding the light on the flags.

Citizen Concern – Electric Department new building – The citizen asked the Board if they have the authority to allow the building to be built. The Board consulted the lawyer and they do have that authority. The citizen has been contacted and made aware of this.

In regard to the building site, the Conservation Commission said that the soil is contaminated. The soil that was excavated was dumped on town owned land. DES was contacted and have taken soil samples. DES recommended that the piles of dirt be covered. The Electric Department has contacted Clean Harbors. Knotweed was also removed from the site. There needs to be a discussion about best practices. Kathleen DeWolfe said that she has received no reply from the Electric Commissioners. Felton has been communicating with DES through email and gave copies to Tim Paquette and the Conservation Commission. This will be put on the Current Issue Log.

Lock systems for town property – The properties off Collings Street and the Avery Well field have locks. The Board asked who has access to them. Tim Paquette said that a few of the departments have keys. His department, the electric department and Water & Sewer have keys. The keys are not numbered and all are keyed the same. Public Service also has a key. Tim Paquette said that his department uses the area to stockpile material. The Board said to put this issue on the Current Issue Log.

Leigh Sharps reported on the PRLAC meeting which she attended. She said that PRLAC will send a letter of opposition to Northern Pass. Sharps said that the Planning Board has sent a letter to Barry Gaw to ask that a buffer be replaced. Also, the church on Main Street has applied for a new sign that will be lit.

The Code Enforcement Officer has the authority to remove any signs on Flag Island.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Eli Badger said that he will be attending a meeting in New Hampton in regard to our sidewalk projects. The meeting is on Wednesday, October 5, 2016, at the Safety Building. He is scheduled to speak about 3:00 pm.

**Sharps moved to go into Non-Public Pursuant to RSA 91-A:3,II (a) at 8:22 PM.** Maher seconded. All in favor 4-0 **Roll Call Vote:** Lamos, yes; Sharps, yes; Felton, yes, Maher, yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Crowell

10-4-16