

1 **III. NEW BUSINESS**

- 2 a. **Ashland Parks & Recreation donation** – Parks & Rec. Director Barney received a
3 donation of an AC unit from Squam Lake Plumbing and Heating. Estimated value of
4 the unit with parts and labor is \$5,332. AC unit to be installed at the Booster Club.
5 Director Barney to hire an electrician to complete the wiring from main panel to the
6 outdoor unit. Board voted and accepted the donation.

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8 **MOTION:** Selectman Sharps

9 *To accept the donation of an AC unit from Squam Lake Plumbing and Heating.*

10 **SECOND:** Selectman Barney

11 **DISCUSSION:** N/A

12 **VOTE:** 4-0

13 **MOTION PASSED**

- 14
15 b. **Ashland Parks & Recreation – Other Business:**

- 16 i. **Tennis/Basketball courts;** Selectman Sharps asked Director Barney about
17 paving the tennis/basketball courts. Director Barney mentioned proposing the
18 expense be paid through a warrant article.
19 ii. **Playground donations;** Director Barney said that donations for the new
20 playground are still being accepted through AARA.
21 iii. **Halloween Kids Night;** Director Barney announced that the Halloween Kids
22 Night Out will be on Friday, October 25th from 6 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. and cost \$5
23 per person.

- 24
25 c. **Ashland Town Library – “Little Free Library;”** Ashland Library Trustee Mardean
26 Badger presented to the Board a request from the Ashland Library Trustees to install a
27 “Little Free Library” in Memorial Park. The Little Free Library will be built to
28 resemble the Ashland Covered Bridge and be approximately 2 feet by 2 feet. The
29 Little Free Library will a place where the community can exchange free books. A
30 goal of this project is to encourage reading. Board approved the project.

- 31 i. **“Little Free Pantry”** – the Library Trustees have also started a “Little Free
32 Pantry” project that is like the book exchange. Inside the town library the
33 Library Trustees installed a pantry where people can take perishable items.
34 Donations are being accepted. List of acceptable items is posted on the town
35 website.

36
37 **MOTION:** Selectman Sharps

38 *To allow the “Little Free Library” be installed in Memorial Park.*

39 **SECOND:** Selectman Barney

40 **DISCUSSION:** N/A

41 **VOTE:** 4-0

42 **MOTION PASSED**

- 1 d. **Ashland Water user charge and rate change announcement** – Town Manager
2 Smith read the memo to Ashland Water customers about the recent decision to
3 increase the user charge \$5 and change the water rate to \$6.35/per 100 cubic feet.
4 Announcement read;

5
6 *Dear Ashland Water Customers,*

7
8 *Effective November 1, 2019 the Ashland Water user charge will increase \$5 and the*
9 *new water rate will be \$6.35/per 100 cubic feet. The increase in these charges was*
10 *determined based upon a rate study completed by Woodard & Curran Engineers,*
11 *which included extensive research and data analysis about the Ashland Water*
12 *Department. The rate study determined an increased user and rate change was*
13 *necessary to generate revenue to support the Water Department operational budget,*
14 *maintenance costs, capital reserve goals, and improve our infrastructure that needs*
15 *critical upgrades. Overall, this increased revenue will help our ability to deliver*
16 *quality service that meets your expectations. We thank you for your business. Please*
17 *feel free to contact Ashland Water if you need further information or clarification.*

18
19 *Sincerely,*

20 *Charles Smith*

21 *Town Manager*

22 *On behalf of the Ashland Board of Selectmen*

- 23
24 e. **Ashland Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Consultant Agreement** –
25 Town Manager Smith forwarded the Board a consulting agreement with “Olde
26 Bostonian Construction Services” to provide services with the town’s Building
27 Inspector/Code Enforcement position. Agreement was previously reviewed by town
28 counsel. Consultant agreed to the recommended changes. Board requested that Code
29 Enforcement be added as part of the service. Board agreed to allow the Town
30 Manager to move forward with the agreement.

31
32 **IV. SELECTBOARD ITEMS**

- 33 a. **Ashland Electric Department (AED)** – the Town of Littleton, Massachusetts has
34 agreed to donate their old meters next year to AED. Donation was arranged by the
35 town’s Electric consultant Dick Joyce.
36 b. **Next Select Board’s meeting** – Selectman Barney requested to change the start time
37 for the next Board meeting on Wednesday, October 9th from 4 p.m. to 3 p.m. Board
38 agreed to change.

39
40 **V. ADJOURNED** – Board adjourned their meeting at 7:04 p.m.

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42 *Town Manager Charles Smith wrote these meeting minutes on October 8, 2019.*