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TOWN OF ASHLAND
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH, 2021
5:30PM

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Town of Ashland Chairman Eli Badger called the meeting to order at 5:30pm and requested roll call of the Selectmen. Chairman Eli Badger and Selectmen Alan Cilley, Andy Fitch, and Bob Letourneau were present, Ann Barney was absent.

MOTION: Andy Fitch

To approve the minutes from the August 16th meeting

SECOND: Robert Letourneau

ROLL CALL VOTE: 4-0

MOTION PASSED

II. **NEW BUSINESS**

a. **PUBLIC HEARING TO ACCEPT FUND FROM THE**

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT – Chairman Badger opened the public hearing for comments on accepting \$107,568.61 from ARPA. An email was sent on behalf of the SEIU Local 1984 Union to put the funds toward union employee wages. Town Manager Fred Welch discussed that the ARPA funds have specific guidelines on how they are to be spent which includes water, sewer, and broadband. His recommendation is to use the funds for Broadband as there is no appropriation in either water or sewer. The question was raised on what the time frame is for expending the funds, the Town Manager replied that the funds must be spent within four years. A comment made from the public suggested that the town choose to spend the funds on something that the town would not incur additional charges after the ARPA funds have been spent. Chairman Badger closed the public hearing once there were no more comments or questions.

MOTION: Robert Letourneau

To accept the \$107,568.61 in funds from the American Rescue Plan Act

SECOND: Andy Fitch

ROLL CALL VOTE: 4-0

MOTION PASSED

- 40 **b. SUBMISSION OF NOMINATION FORM FOR SCOTT VIEN**
41 **AS HEALTH OFFICER** – Scott has been the Health Officer, but
42 paperwork was not submitted to the state. The board needs to sign the
43 form to submit.

44
45 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch

46 *To sign the form for Scott Vien as Health Officer*

47 **SECOND:** Alan Cilley

48 **ROLL CALL VOTE:** 4-0

49 **MOTION PASSED**

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51 **c. FIRE STATION REPAIRS** – Town Manager Fred Welch brought
52 the quote from M.P.A. for the repair of the foundation of the fire
53 station. The quote had broken down the cost for the foundation and
54 additional recommended repairs. The current recommendation from
55 the Town Manager is the quotes listed as A-B totaling \$16,345 as they
56 need to be completed before winter, and to discuss the additional
57 repairs at a later date.

58
59 **MOTION:** Robert Letourneau

60 *To accept the quote from M.P.A. for items A-B*

61 **SECOND:** Andy Fitch

62 **ROLL CALL VOTE:** 4-0

63 **MOTION PASSED**

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65 **d. REQUEST FOR A PROCLAMATION FOR ASHLAND TO**
66 **BECOME A PURPLE HEART COMMUNITY** – The board was
67 presented with a form to complete should they wish to be designated
68 as a Purple Heart Community. There is a cost associated with this
69 request.

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71 **MOTION:** Robert Letourneau

72 *To approve the request of becoming a Purple Heart Community*

73 **SECOND:** Alan Cilley

74 **ROLL CALL VOTE:** 4-0

75 **MOTION PASSED**

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80 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch
81 *To approve the purchase of 2 large signs to designate the town as a Purple*
82 *Heart Community at \$52.70 each.*

83 **SECOND:** Robert Letourneau

84 **ROLL CALL VOTE:** 4-0

85 **MOTION PASSED**

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87 e. **FINAL PAYMENT OF FIRE TRUCK** – the town is requesting the
88 funds be expended from the Capital Reserve Fund for the final
89 payment of the Fire Truck totaling \$204,229.52.

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91 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch

92 *To expend the funds from the Capital Reserve fund for the final payment*
93 *totaling \$204,229.52*

94 **SECOND:** Robert Letourneau

95 **ROLL CALL VOTE:** 4-0

96 **MOTION PASSED**

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98 f. **REQUEST FOR REPLACEMENT OF SEWER TRUCK** – the
99 funds are currently in the budget totaling \$48,500 for the purchase of
100 a new truck. The state bid with pricing was presented to the board for
101 approval.

102

103 **MOTION:** Robert Letourneau

104 *To approve the purchase of a new truck for the sewer department not to*
105 *exceed \$48,500.*

106 **SECOND:** Andy Fitch

107 **ROLL CALL VOTE:** 4-0

108 **MOTION PASSED**

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110 **III. OLD BUSINESS – NONE**

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112 **IV. SELECTMENS ITEMS**

113 Chairman Badger spoke about the need for members for the Planning
114 Board and the Zoning Board. Currently the boards are operating with the
115 minimum of 3 members which can make decisions difficult due to
116 needing three votes for items to pass, should one member be opposed the
117 items are defeated. The discussion was based around how to get the
118 community involved. The board discussed putting a sign up on the
119 website with links to the applications.

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MOTION: Alan Cilley
To adjourn the meeting at 6:13pm
SECOND: Andy Fitch
ROLL CALL VOTE 4-0
MOTION PASSED