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**TOWN OF ASHLAND
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 21ST, 2022, 5:00PM
UTILITY CONFERENCE ROOM
6 COLLINS STREET, ASHLAND, NH**

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I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Selectman Bob Letourneau called the meeting to order at 5pm with a roll call, Rebecca Hartley, Ann Barney, Alan Cilley were present. Andy Fitch was absent with notice.

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II. **MEETING WITH TAX COLLECTOR** – Town Clerk/Tax Collector Patsy Tucker presented the Board with information about the Tax Deeding which will take place April 18th. Mrs. Tucker presented that the list of properties contains the same names as last year and are on the list for the same situations. Mrs. Tucker stated that she expects some to pay and that others will not pay. Town Manager Fred Welch suggested that the Board look at the prepared information which Mrs. Tucker has put together for the Boards review at the Town Hall. The information prepared includes payment agreements and circumstances as to why those properties are on the list. Mrs. Tucker also presented an abatement request for \$20.77, this request included multiple parties for several reasons including errors with interest on the online program. Mrs. Tucker’s also spoke with the Board about Squam River Power in terms of a refund from 2018 that had not been sent out which currently sits at an amount of \$2,965.02.

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III. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

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MOTION: Alan Cilley
To nominate Bob Letourneau as Chairman
SECOND: Rebecca Hartley
VOTE: 4-0
MOTION PASSED

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MOTION: Bob Letourneau
To nominate Alan Cilley as Vice Chairman
SECOND: Ann Barney
VOTE: 3-0, 1 Abstention: Alan Cilley
MOTION PASSED

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MOTION: Bob Letourneau
To nominate Ann Barney as Representative to the Budget Committee
SECOND: Rebecca Hartley
VOTE: 3-0, 1 Abstention: Ann Barney
MOTION PASSED

45 **The alternate representative to the Budget Committee was left open to be**
46 **discussed with Andy Fitch on his return.**

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48 **MOTION:** Bob Letourneau
49 *To nominate Andy Fitch as the Ex-Officio Member to the Planning Board*
50 **SECOND:** Ann Barney
51 **VOTE:** 4-0
52 **MOTION PASSED**

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54 **The alternate ex-officio member to the Planning Board was left open to be**
55 **discussed with Andy Fitch on his return.**

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57 **MOTION:** Bob Letourneau
58 *To nominate Alan Cilley as the Alternate Member to the Zoning Board of Adjustment*
59 **SECOND:** Ann Barney
60 **VOTE:** 3-0, 1 abstention: Alan Cilley
61 **MOTION PASSED**

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63 **MOTION:** Alan Cilley
64 *To approve the minutes of the March 7th meeting*
65 **SECOND:** Ann Barney
66 **VOTE:** 4-0
67 **MOTION PASSED**

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69 **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

70 a. **APPROVAL TO CHARGE OFF UNPAID ELECTRIC BILLS FOR**
71 **THOSE WHO HAVE LEFT TOWN WITHOUT A FORWARDING**
72 **ADDRESS 2016-2021 \$30,242.89** – Mr. Welch presented the Board with a
73 spreadsheet prepared by the Electric Department to show the outstanding debt that
74 has been uncollectable. The Board had questions about the amounts on the list and
75 questioned the deposits for these accounts. Chairman Letourneau pointed towards
76 the next item on the agenda which is the updated billing rules and regulations for
77 the Electric Department. One of the accounts listed had recent information
78 provided to the Electric Department and is being held until further investigation
79 has been completed.

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81 **MOTION:** Rebecca Hartley
82 *To write off \$29,817.02 in outstanding accounts in the Electric Department*
83 **SECOND:** Ann Barney
84 **VOTE:** 4-0
85 **MOTION PASSED**

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87 b. **APPROVAL OF UPDATED BILLING RULES, REGULATIONS AND**
88 **RATES FOR ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT** – Mr. Welch presented the Board
89 with updates for Electric Department rules and regulations. Please see attached
90 below the updated rules and regulations.

91 **MOTION:** Ann Barney
92 *To accept the updated Billing Rules, Regulations and Rates for the Electric*
93 *Department*

94 **SECOND:** Rebecca Hartley

95 **VOTE:** 4-0

96 **MOTION PASSED**

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- 98 **c. APPROVAL OF PAYRATE CHANGES FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT IN**
99 **ACCORD WITH BUDGET** – Mr. Welch presented the Board with a chart of
100 pay increases for the Fire Department prepared by Chief Heath.

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102 **MOTION:** Ann Barney

103 *To approve the pay increases in accordance with the budget*

104 **SECOND:** Alan Cilley

105 **VOTE:** 4-0

106 **MOTION PASSED**

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- 108 **d. SIGN DRA FORM MS-232 REPORT OF APPROPRIATIONS ACTUALLY**
109 **VOTED** – Mr. Welch presented the Board with the DRA filing of the voted
110 appropriations for their signature.

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112 **MOTION:** Ann Barney

113 *To approve the signing of the MS-232*

114 **SECOND:** Rebecca Hartley

115 **VOTE:** 4-0

116 **MOTION PASSED**

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- 118 **e. QUESTION OF AGREEING TO A QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF**
119 **PAYMENTS TO THE LIBRARY** – The Library prepared a request to set a
120 schedule for their quarterly payments. The quarterly payments would be paid
121 April, July, and October in the amount of \$8470.

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123 **MOTION:** Alan Cilley

124 *To approve the requested schedule of quarterly payments to the Library*

125 **SECOND:** Rebecca Hartley

126 **VOTE:** 4-0

127 **MOTION PASSED**

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- 129 **f. QUESTION OF AGREEING TO A TEMPORARY ACCESS PERMIT TO**
130 **EVERSOURCE AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT FOR**
131 **115 LINE REPLACEMENT** – Mr. Welch presented the Board with a request
132 from Eversource for a temporary access permit during the updates to the 115 line.
133 The Board also discussed the bridge that Eversource will be installing on Collins
134 street. Mr. Welch relayed to the Board that the Town has not yet received the
135 plans for the new bridge but did discuss that Eversource will want someone to
136 take possession of the bridge when the project is completed.

137 **MOTION:** Rebecca Hartley
138 *To approve the temporary access permit to Eversource*
139 **SECOND:** Ann Barney
140 **VOTE:** 4-0
141 **MOTION PASSED**

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143 g. **QUESTION OF CROSSWALKS ON THE SCHEDULED PAVING AREA**
144 **OF ROUTE 3 BY NH DOT** – Mr. Welch presented the Board with information
145 from the state about the crosswalks and painting of the crosswalks. Public Works
146 will work with the State on the sidewalks that need to be done. This work comes
147 from the sidewalk project that was completed in 2021.

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149 **MOTION:** Alan Cilley
150 *To approve the authorization for Craig Moore Director of DPW to sign the*
151 *Crosswalk Agreement*
152 **SECOND:** Rebecca Hartley
153 **VOTE:** 4-0
154 **MOTION PASSED**

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156 **V. OLD BUSINESS**

157 a. Mr. Welch discussed with the Board that the Town is still looking for a building
158 inspector. Mr. Welch was in communication with the Thornton/Lincoln building
159 inspector to see if he would be available 20 hours per week. In the meantime,
160 there is a permit that needs to be signed by the Board for an addition under a
161 porch. The addition would be within the current footprint of the house. The
162 consensus of the Board was to approve and issue the permit. Selectman Cilley
163 discussed if 20 hours for the building inspector was in the Budget, Mr. Welch
164 stated that the building inspector budget was increased to accommodate 2 days of
165 work. Mr. Welch made the statement that we do not want people to do work
166 without a permit.

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168 b. The Board revisited the abatement request for \$20.77 and the abatement payout to
169 Squam River Power that was presented earlier by Mrs. Tucker

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171 **MOTION:** Rebecca Hartley
172 *To sign the abatement for totaling \$20.77*
173 **SECOND:** Alan Cilley
174 **VOTE:** 4-0
175 **MOTION PASSED**

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177 **MOTION:** Rebecca Hartley
178 *To approve the payment to Squam River Power \$2,965.02*
179 **SECOND:** Ann Barney
180 **VOTE:** 4-0
181 **MOTION PASSED**

182 c. **LAKES REGION COMMUNITY DEVELOPERS CDBG GRANT**
183 **APPLICATION REQUEST** – Mr. Welch informed the Board that Lakes Region
184 Community Developers would be coming back to meet with the Board. Mr.
185 Welch is suggesting that the owners pay the electric and for the owners to assess
186 the tenants for the electricity.
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188 **VI. SELECTBOARD ITEMS -NONE**

189 **MOTION:** Alan Cilley
190 *To move to a Non-Public Session pursuant 91-A:3 II(a)*
191 **SECOND:** Rebecca Hartley
192 **VOTE:** 4-0
193 **MOTION PASSED**
194

195 **MOTION:** Rebecca Hartley
196 *To appoint Anne Sullivan as the Assistant Town Clerk/Tax Collector*
197 **SECOND:** Ann Barney
198 **VOTE:** 3-0, 1 Abstention: Alan Cilley
199 **MOTION PASSED**
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201 **MOTION:** Alan Cilley
202 *To adjourn the meeting at 6:38pm*
203 **SECOND:** Rebecca Hartley
204 **VOTE:** 4-0
205 **MOTION PASSED**
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