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**TOWN OF ASHLAND
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 4TH, 2022, 5:30PM
UTILITY CONFERENCE ROOM
6 COLLINS STREET, ASHLAND, NH**

7 I. **CALL TO ORDER** – Selectman Bob Letourneau called the meeting to order at
8 5:30pm and started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
9

10 II. **NEW BUSINESS**

11 a. **MEETING WITH BOARD OF TOWN TRUSTEES** – Amanda Loud
12 presented the Board with the Trustees of the Trust Funds quarterly report.
13 Currently 6 of the trust funds are held at Vanguard: Memorial Park Fund, Scribner
14 Fund, Blake Fire Fund, Alice Janet Addison Fund, Harriet Addison Fund, and the
15 Edward Doggett Fund. Ms. Loud stated that the funds are doing well and
16 growing, previously not all the funds had been listed as trusts, but the Trustees
17 have worked to correct those funds. Ms. Loud stated that the current amount
18 across all the funds totals \$266,824.85 as of today. Ms. Loud went on to say that
19 the scholarship accounts are extremely low. Ms. Loud shared that no more than
20 3% should be taken from a fund in order to maintain the principal amount. Ms.
21 Loud also spoke about the 4 accounts still in legal one of which deals with the
22 cemetery. Town Manager Fred Welch stated that he has located the creation of the
23 cemetery which was in the 1850's but cannot find the sale of the cemetery. Walter
24 Durack then spoke about the 2021 MS-9, stating that the one in the Town Report
25 is incorrect because it lists the numbers for 2020. Town Manager Fred Welch said
26 that he would look into this matter.
27

28 b. **LAKES REGION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CDBG GRANT**
29 **REQUEST** – Lakes Region Community Developers made a presentation for the
30 purchase of Saint Agnes Church for the purpose of housing for individuals with
31 disabilities. Becky Bryant of Lakes Region Community Services presented
32 information during the presentation as well. The development would help
33 individuals with disabilities live as independently as possible. Lakes Region
34 Community Developers would be responsible for the building and Lakes Region
35 Community Services would be responsible for the tenants of the building and the
36 services the tenants would need. The presentation showed 6 units in the rectory
37 and 4 units in the Church and 2 units in the Parish Hall as well as a community
38 room on the lower level. In the Parish Hall a 3-bedroom apartment would be
39 available for 1 staff person with a family, this person would be a resource for the
40 residents. Some of the units would have kitchenettes, but the lower level would
41 have a kitchen for group meals and cooking classes. Both agencies feel as though
42 Ashland is an ideal location due many places being in walking distance, and the
43 employment opportunities that may be available for the tenants. Chairman
44 Letourneau would like to hold a public hearing on the project.
45

46 c. **APPROVAL OF DEPUTY FOREST FIRE WARDENS** – The Board was
 47 presented with eight members of the Ashland Fire Department including the Fire
 48 Chief to be reappointed for a 3-year term.

49
 50 **MOTION:** Ann Barney
 51 *To reappoint the Deputy Forest Fire Wardens*

52 **SECOND:** Rebecca Hartley

53 **VOTE:** 4-0

54 **MOTION PASSED**

55
 56 d. **TEST TRANSFORMER T1, ENGINEERING PLANS, REPLACE**
 57 **RECLOSURE DEVICE AND INSTALL CONTROLLER** – Public Works
 58 Director Craig Moore explained to the Board that transformer T1 needs replacing.
 59 Mr. Moore reminded the Board of when T2 went down and needed to be rebuilt.
 60 Eaton would do the same thing for T1 as what was done for T2. The Board was
 61 presented with a quote for replacement of T1 and an upgraded reclosure, the
 62 estimated schedule for completion on this project would be 2024 due to lead times
 63 on materials. Mr. Moore also discussed the substation maintenance that he has a
 64 quote for totaling \$28,000, which had been budgeted for.

65
 66 **MOTION:** Alan Cilley
 67 *To proceed with the engineering study for the substation*

68 **SECOND:** Ann Barney

69 **VOTE:** 4-0

70 **MOTION PASSED**

71

72 **III. OLD BUISNESS – NONE**

73 **IV. SELECTBOARD ITEMS**

74 a. Selectman Barney discussed with the Board a camper that is in the campground
 75 that is for sale. The sellers want to sell the spot with the camper, however there is
 76 a waiting list that has been around for many years. Selectman Barney feels that a
 77 decision either way will be problematic. Mr. Moore inquired about the difficulty
 78 of taking the camper out of the campground and Selectman Barney confirmed that
 79 it is not one of the big campers, and a fairly new camper. The Board discussed
 80 how this decision would set a precedent for how to handle this situation moving
 81 forward. Mr. Welch suggested selling the camper with the site but that the rental
 82 of the site would be pending acceptance of their application.

83

84 **MOTION:** Bob Letourneau
 85 *To leave the camper on the site and sell it pending application and acceptance*

86 **SECOND:** Rebecca Hartley

87 **VOTE:** 2-1, 1 abstention: Ann Barney

88 **MOTION PASSED**

89

90

- 91 b. Selectman Hartley discussed with the Board an online community event calendar.
92 Selectman Hartley feels as though activities and events through the school should
93 be more easily accessible to all Town's people not just those who are parents as
94 well as other local business that may be putting on events. Mardean Badger who
95 makes changes for the Town's website added to the discussion that this idea had
96 come up in the past but that it was difficult to organize and keep up with.
97 Ultimately the current calendar on the website deals with municipal activities
98 only. Mrs. Badger suggested starting a Facebook page where businesses could be
99 encouraged to post their activities. Mr. Moore added that New Hampshire
100 Municipal Association has information and webinars relating to social media and
101 suggested that they be reached out to.
102
- 103 c. Mr. Welch updated the Board on the water pumps. Pump #2 is operating but
104 pump #1 needs to be looked at to see if it can be rebuilt. They have ordered a
105 pump like #2 as backup, however the pumps are not interchangeable. Mr. Welch
106 also discussed with the Board the request from the Historical Society for
107 insurance on the covered bridge. Our insurance only covers the bridge up to
108 \$150,000 and they do not offer plans for added insurance on bridges. The current
109 estimated value of the covered bridge is \$1.3 Million. It was suggested that
110 supplemental insurance be looked into for the bridge.
111
- 112 d. James World approached the Board with concern to his hydro electric property.
113 He is currently selling his property, but the property has outstanding taxes, he is
114 selling the property for roughly the amount that is due in back taxes. Mr. World
115 inquired with the Board if they would be willing to cancel the taxes so that he
116 does not take a loss on this sale. Mr. Welch suggested that Mr. World put together
117 a proposal for the Board to read and consider before a deal is made.
118
- 119 e. The Board inquired about the Lemon Law case that is currently ongoing within
120 the Police Department. Chief Ulwick informed the Board that the vehicle has
121 spent more time in the garage that it has out on the field, essentially everything
122 has been replaced and the vehicle is still having problems. Chief Ulwick is hoping
123 that the vehicle will be replaced through Ford, the current vehicle was purchased
124 through Irwin. Chief also mentioned that all vehicles ordered through Dodge have
125 been cancelled. Chief presented the Board with a letter that needs authorization
126 from the Board to be signed and filed for the Lemon Law case.
127

128 **MOTION:** Rebecca Hartley

129 *To allow the Town Manager to sign the paperwork for the Lemon Law case*

130 **SECOND:** Ann Barney

131 **VOTE:** 4-0

132 **MOTION PASSED**

133
134 Mr. Moore mentioned before the meeting ended that the Winter Street bridge
135 work would be starting on Wednesday 4/6/22.
136

137 Selectman Barney mentioned that summer camp sign ups are open as of 4/20/22
138 and paperwork is available on the Town website.

139
140 **MOTION:** Bob Letourneau
141 *To enter into non-public session pursuant 91-A:3 II(C)*

142 **SECOND:** Alan Cilley

143 **VOTE:** 4-0

144 **MOTION PASSED**

145
146 **MOTION:** Alan Cilley
147 *To seal the minutes of the non-public session*

148 **SECOND:** Ann Barney

149 **VOTE:** 4-0

150 **MOTION PASSED**

151
152 Chairman Letourneau would like to schedule a public hearing on the development
153 of St. Agnes Church from Lakes Region Community Developers. Chairman
154 Letourneau would like to hear the potential impact from the Fire and Police
155 Departments.

156
157 **MOTION:** Alan Cilley
158 *To adjourn the meeting at 8:06pm*

159 **SECOND:** Ann Barney

160 **VOTE:** 4-0

161 **MOTION PASSED**

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