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**TOWN OF ASHLAND
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2024
UTILITY CONFERENCE ROOM
6 COLLINS ST, ASHLAND NH**

- I. CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Fitch opened the meeting, Selectmen, Ann Barney and Meghan Semiao were in attendance. Charles Bozzello was absent without notice.

MOTION: Meghan Semiao

To approve the minutes of March 25, 2024 as written

SECOND: Andy Fitch

VOTE: 3-0

MOTION PASSED

II. NEW BUSINESS

- a. DONATION OF (2) 4-DRAWER VERTICAL FILES, (1) 2-DRAWER HORIZONTAL FILE, (2) BOXES OF MISC. OFFICE SUPPLIES TO THE BUILDING DEPT. RSA 91:95-e II** – Chair Fitch opened the public hearing at 5:33pm and discussed the donation of the above items from the Florence E. Maddix Estate. The public hearing closed at 5:34pm with no comments from the public.

MOTION: Meghan Semiao

To accept the donation as written

SECOND: Ann Barney

VOTE: 3-0

MOTION PASSED

- b. TOWN HEALTH OFFICER** – Health Officer Kendall Hughes gave his periodic report to the Board. Mr. Hughes was appointed as the Health Officer in the Fall of 2023. During this time there have been 7 investigations with 6 of the investigations closed, and 1 closing shortly. Mr. Hughes noted that he has attended Health Officer trainings and he announced that there would be a Public Safety Day on June 1st at the Ballpark.

- c. APPLICATION FOR CURRENT USE FROM MORIARTY 2014 TRUST TO BE FORWARDED TO ASSESSOR FOR REVIEW AND ASSESSMENT SUBJECT TO FINAL ACCEPTANCE** – Town Manager Fred Welch discussed the documents provided by the named above. Mr. Welch noted that the documents are in proper order and that the assessors will need to do a current assessment. Once that is complete the Board will need to sign off on it. The Board gave their consensus to move forward.

46 **d. AUTHORIZE RELEASE OF \$4,107.21 FROM CAPITAL RESERVE**
47 **ACCOUNT FOR BUILDING MAINTENANCE FOR TOWN-WIDE**
48 **DOOR LOCK UPDATE** – The Board received a quote for a Town-wide
49 lock replacement update. Police Chief Ulwick discussed that he worked with
50 the vendor over roughly 4 hours to identify all the doors that would be
51 included in this project, the project will include re-keying, some complete
52 replacements of locks with individual keys and grand master keys. The Board
53 asked who will control the keys, at this time it is being worked out between
54 the Police Chief, Town Manager and Finance Department.
55

56 **MOTION:** Ann Barney
57 *To approve up to \$4,107.21 from the Building Capital Reserve Fund for the door lock*
58 *updates*

59 **SECOND:** Meghan Semiao

60 **VOTE:** 3-0

61 **MOTION PASSED**
62

63 **a. PURCHASE REPLACEMENT DPW PLOW TRUCK FROM CAPITAL**
64 **RESERVE FUNDS \$246,877** – DPW Director Criag Moore presented options
65 for the new plow truck to the Board. The preferred vendor is \$42,000 less than
66 originally thought. Mr. Moore explained that the truck will need a new radio
67 which will be a late addition to the truck as it will not be available until later in
68 the year, the plow will also need a new wing and head gear.
69

70 **MOTION:** Ann Barney
71 *To approve \$246,877 out of the Public Works Capital Reserve Fund for a plow*
72 *truck*

73 **SECOND:** Meghan Semiao

74 **VOTE:** 3-0

75 **MOTION PASSED**
76

77 **b. REQUEST TO APPROVE RENEWAL AGREEMENT FOR CABLE**
78 **FRANCHISE AGREEMENT RSA 53-C** – Mr. Welch discussed that the cable
79 contract expired and previously the company said they were not going to renew,
80 however they cannot operate legally without a contract with the Board. Mr. Welch
81 suggested that a committee be put together to review the agreement and added
82 that this contract is the worst he's seen. Chair Fitch suggested that this topic be
83 tabled at this time.
84

85 **c. ARPA FUNDS** – Finance Director Marissah Gallien discussed with the Board the
86 ARPA funds that the Town received a few years ago for roughly \$217,000 and
87 asked that the Board consider re-committing the funds to a different project. The
88 period for expenditures is coming up, and currently the funds are committed to
89 broadband, however there is not currently a project started. The Board took the
90 discussion under advisement.
91

92 **d. FLAGS** – A recent citizen’s complaint was discussed about flags being flown at
93 night without illumination. The issue is being worked on within the Town.

94
95 **e. PROPOSED SUMMER CAMP RATES** – Parks & Rec Director Ann Barney
96 discussed with the Board a new rate schedule for the 2024 Summer Camp season.
97 The new rates are still below area programs, and Ms. Barney added that the rates
98 include the transportation and trips that the camp goes on during the summer.
99 Both Chair Fitch and Selectman Semiao agreed that the rates seem reasonable.

100
101 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch
102 *To approve the 2024 summer camp rate schedule*

103 **SECOND:** Meghan Semiao

104 **VOTE:** 3-0

105 **MOTION PASSED**

106
107 **f. AMBULANCE COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT** – Due to Rebecca Hartley
108 previously being the Board of Selectmen representative to the Ambulance
109 Committee she now needs to be re-appointed to the committee as a regular
110 member.

111
112 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch

113 *To appoint Rebecca Hartley to the Ambulance Committee*

114 **SECOND:** Ann Barney

115 **VOTE:** 3-0

116 **MOTION PASSED**

117
118 The Board acknowledges that the Ambulance Committee will need a Board
119 representative, however they will hold off until there is a full Board. The Board
120 has received 3 applications so far for appointment to the Board of Selectmen, a
121 decision will be made at the April 15th meeting. Interviews will be held next
122 Monday April 8th.

123
124 **g. CAMERA SYSTEM** – Chair Fitch discussed the importance of recording all
125 board and committee meetings and will be working on getting a system set up.

126
127 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch

128 *To enter into a non-public session pursuant to 91-A:3 (l & c) at 6:20pm*

129 **SECOND:** Ann Barney

130 **VOTE:** 3-0

131 **MOTION PASSED**

132
133 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch

134 *To seal the minutes of the non-public session*

135 **SECOND:** Meghan Semiao

136 **VOTE:** 3-0

137 **MOTION PASSED**

138

139

MOTION: Andy Fitch
To adjourn the meeting at 6:41pm

140

141

SECOND: Ann Barney

142

VOTE: 3-0

143

MOTION PASSED