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**TOWN OF ASHLAND  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
MONDAY, APRIL 15, 2024  
UTILITY CONFERENCE ROOM  
6 COLLINS ST, ASHLAND NH**

**I. CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Fitch opened the meeting, Selectmen, Ann Barney, Charles Bozzello and Meghan Semiao were all in attendance.

Robert Letourneau presented Patricia Tucker with a commendation from the Ballot Law Commission signed by David Scanlan.

**MOTION:** Ann Barney  
*To approve the minutes of February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, as amended*  
**SECOND:** Charles Bozzello  
**VOTE:** 4-0  
**AMENDMENT:** Line 67, add “Brandon” before Hiltz  
**MOTION PASSED**

**MOTION:** Ann Barney  
*To approve the minutes of February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024, as written*  
**SECOND:** Andy Fitch  
**VOTE:** 4-0  
**MOTION PASSED**

**MOTION:** Ann Barney  
*To approve the minutes of March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024, as written*  
**SECOND:** Meghan Semiao  
**VOTE:** 4-0  
**MOTION PASSED**

**II. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. PUBLIC HEARING: BUILDING FEES –**

Chair Fitch opened the Public Hearing at 5:37pm and explained that the fee schedule’s only amendment would be that non-structural building permits would be issued without a fee. Selectmen Bozzello asked if “structural” is defined and Building Inspector Devon Thibeault answered that “structural” is defined in the building codes. Chair Fitch closed the public hearing at 5:42pm after asking for public comment.

**MOTION:** Charles Bozzello  
*To approve the building fee schedule with the change that non-structural changes will not require a permit or a fee.*  
**SECOND:** Ann Barney  
**VOTE:** 4-0  
**MOTION PASSED**

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**b. MEETING WITH PB-TV –**

Dan Salzer met with the Board to discuss the current set up and put together simplified step-by-step instructions for use of the system so that all committees would be able to record their meetings.

**c. MEETING WITH ANNE ABEAR –** Mrs. Abear presented her concerns to the Board about the severing of the Plymouth Ambulance contract which will end on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Her concerns included the coverage that will be available to the residents and the potential strain it could put on the department. Chair Fitch stated that he would be open to meeting with the Town Administrator in Plymouth Scott Weden.

**d. POLICE DEPARTMENT HIGHWAY SAFETY GRANT –** Chief Ulwick discussed with the Board the previous highway safety grant that the department did for the I-93 effort and an additional grant is available for efforts on Route 3. The Chief is seeking approval from the Board for the grant.

**MOTION:** Andy Fitch

*To approve the Highway Safety Grant*

**SECOND:** Charles Bozzello

**VOTE:** 4-0

**MOTION PASSED**

**e. POLICE DEPARTMENT DETAIL RATE –** Chief Ulwick discussed with the Board that he has researched nearby towns outside detail rates and has asked to increase the amount that is given to the officer and the rate of the car. The current detail rate is \$70/hour \$50 goes to the officer and \$20 is the administrative fee. The cruiser rate is currently \$10 per hour the increase would be to \$20 per hour. For other Governmental agencies the new rate would be \$80 per hour, \$60 to the officer keeping the administrative fee at \$20, and for private agencies the rate would go to \$90 per hour, \$70 to the officer, keeping the administrative fee at \$20 per hour, both would have the cruiser rate at \$20 per hour. The Board gave their consensus to move forward with the new rates.

**f. EVERSOURCE LAND PURCHASE REQUEST –** Town Manager Fred Welch discussed a letter that the Board received concerning interest from Eversource in purchasing a portion of the land the Town owns by the landfill. The Board tabled the discussion until more information is obtained from Eversource.

**g. SHREDDING SERVICE PROPOSAL –** Finance Director Marissah Gallien provided the Board with 2 quotes for shredding services that the Town could use. The state quote was unfortunately not received in time for the meeting, Ms. Gallien stated that she will obtain the final quote and bring it back before the Board.

93 **h. PROPOSAL BY DPW FOR 2024 PAVING AND REQUEST TO APPROVE**  
 94 **FUNDING** – DPW Director Craig Moore discussed that the paving project for  
 95 this year would include Hicks Hill, Libby Lane, and Mountain View Drive. Chair  
 96 Fitch asked if all the roads are accepted, Mr. Moore did not have the answer at  
 97 this time. The Board asked to hold the item until the next meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup> to  
 98 confirm the acceptance of the roads.  
 99

100 **i. PROPOSAL FOR 2024 CRACK SEALING \$17,600 – VARIOUS STREETS**  
 101 – Mr. Moore shared that some of the streets for this year include Winter St, Avery  
 102 St, and Collins St.  
 103

104 **MOTION:** Charles Bozzello  
 105 *To approve the crack sealing for \$17,600*

106 **SECOND:** Meghan Semiao

107 **VOTE:** 4-0

108 **MOTION PASSED**  
 109

110 **j. ELECTRIC BUCKET TRUCK PURCHASE REQUEST** – Electric  
 111 Superintendent Harry Gallien presented the Board with 3 quotes for a new bucket  
 112 truck. One of the vendors will give the department \$50,000 in trade in value. The  
 113 Board will consider the purchase at their next meeting.  
 114

115 **III. CONTINUING ITEMS –**

116 **a. BOARD ACTION TO FILL VACANT SELECTMEN’S SEAT –**

117 **MOTION:** Charles Bozzello

118 *To add Jennie Angell to the Board of Selectmen*

119 **SECOND:** Andy Fitch

120 **VOTE:** 2-2

121 **MOTION FAILED**  
 122

123 **MOTION:** Ann Barney

124 *To add Chris Janosa to the Board of Selectmen*

125 **SECOND:** Meghan Semiao

126 **VOTE:** 3-1

127 **MOTION PASSED**  
 128

129 **b. BROADBAND** – Selectman Semiao shared news that Grafton County  
 130 will be bringing broadband to the Town. A hub will be brought to the  
 131 Town Hall and there will be bids for the servicing. Representatives will be  
 132 brought in from NHEC, Consolidated Communications, Breezeline and  
 133 Hub 66 to present to the Board. Selectman Semiao did share that the  
 134 representative from Consolidated Communications is her brother.  
 135  
 136  
 137

138 c. **CABLE TV** – Selectmen Semiao read the contract provided by current  
139 provider and felt that there should be some negotiation and that she will be  
140 working with Mr. Welch on this project.

141  
142 d. **ARPA FUNDS** – Chair Fitch discussed the ARPA funds that the Town  
143 has available, and he asked the Board to consider using the funds for the  
144 engineering of the water lines on Winona Road.

145  
146 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch  
147 *To use the ARPA funds for Winona Road subject to approval*

148 **SECOND:** Meghan Semiao

149 **VOTE:** 4-0

150 **MOTION PASSED**

151

152 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch  
153 *To enter into a non-public session pursuant to 91-A:3 (c) at 6:49pm*

154 **SECOND:** Ann Barney

155 **VOTE:** 4-0

156 **MOTION PASSED**

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158 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch  
159 *To seal the minutes of the non-public session*

160 **SECOND:** Ann Barney

161 **VOTE:** 4-0

162 **MOTION PASSED**

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164 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch  
165 *To enter into a non-public session pursuant to 91-A:3 (c) at 7:23pm*

166 **SECOND:** Ann Barney

167 **VOTE:** 4-0

168 **MOTION PASSED**

169

170 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch  
171 *To seal the minutes of the non-public session at 7:56pm*

172 **SECOND:** Charles Bozzello

173 **VOTE:** 4-0

174 **MOTION PASSED**

175

176 **MOTION:** Ann Barney  
177 *To adjourn the meeting at 7:57pm*

178 **SECOND:** Andy Fitch

179 **VOTE:** 4-0

180 **MOTION PASSED**