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**TOWN OF ASHLAND
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 5, 2024
UTILITY CONFERENCE ROOM
6 COLLINS STREET, ASHLAND**

- I. CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Fitch opened the meeting with Selectmen Ann Barney, Meghan Semiao, Charles Bozzello and Chris Janosa all present.

MOTION: Chris Janosa

To approve the minutes of July 15, 2024 as written

SECOND: Meghan Semiao

VOTE: 5-0

MOTION PASSED

- II. NEW BUSINESS**

- a. PUBLIC HEARING TO AMEND SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE – PLASTIC RECYCLING** – Town Manager Fred Welch explained that although the ordinance does not include the language for recycling plastics, the transfer station has been recycling them all along. Selectman Janosa asked if this language was an oversight, to which Mr. Welch confirmed that it was. There were no comments from the public. The hearing closed at 5:31pm.

MOTION: Charles Bozzello

To approve the amendment to the solid waste ordinance to include plastics.

SECOND: Andy Fitch

VOTE: 5-0

MOTION PASSED

- b. MEETING WITH GOLDEN POND HYDRO** – Aaron Sliski (Mechanical Designer), Austin Brown (MIT Grad), and Dane Kouttron (MIT Nuclear Research Engineer) spoke with the Board about the possibility of a power agreement in the future between their potential purchase of the hydro off of Mill Pond Lane and the Town. They discussed their plans for rehabbing the hydro to produce green energy and wanted to start the discussion with the Town. The Board gave a consensus that they are open to continuing the discussion about their potential project.

- c. ABATEMENTS**

MOTION: Charles Bozzello

To accept the abatement for map & lot 206-006-000-BG-002A

SECOND: Andy Fitch

VOTE: 5-0

MOTION PASSED

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d. TAX DEEDING – Town Clerk/Tax Collector Becky Hartley spoke with the Board about the 7 properties that are up for tax deeding. Mrs. Hartley has been working with the owners on the list to get their accounts in good standing. There was one person that she has been unable to speak with, she suggested that possibly a house visit with an officer could give this individual a last opportunity to work with the Town. The Board said that they will make their final decisions at their next meeting.

e. PERMIT FOR BUSINESS SIGN –

MOTION: Meghan Semiao

To approve the breakfast sign from Colleen’s Kitchen at Memorial Park

SECOND: Charles Bozzello

DISCUSSION: Selectman Janosa added that the sign should not be on the sidewalk for ADA compliance.

VOTE: 5-0

MOTION PASSED

f. REVIEW OF SELECTMEN’S ODRINANCE – HAWKERS, PEDDLERS, & VENDORS DRAFT – The Board was provided a draft re-write of the ordinance. A public hearing will be scheduled to approve the draft.

g. CAMPGROUND – Selectman Barney spoke about the electrical issues at the campground as well as the water & sewer work that needs to be done along with the survey that will be scheduled to identify each campsite. Selectman Barney obtained quotes from the Water & Sewer Department, the Electric Department and DPW for the work that needs to be done at the campground. The whole project is estimated \$47,000. The Board discussed setting up a fund to cover charges for continuing care of the campground. Selectman Barney revisited the survey that needs to take place, the surveyor would need the campground to be empty in order to perform the survey. Selectman Janosa and Selectman Barney will work together on reviewing the rules & regulations of the campground. Selectman Semiao offered to draft a letter to the campers to communicate that all personal items will need to leave at the end of the season.

h. APPOINTMENTS – The Board discussed the Economic Development Committee, Selectmen Bozzello feels that September would be a better time to make appointments to the committee as it will allow time to determine a clear objective for the committee. The Board reviewed an application for appointment to the Housing Standards Board.

MOTION: Meghan Semiao

To appoint Lisa Rollins to the Housing Standards Board

SECOND: Ann Barney

VOTE: 5-0

MOTION PASSED

93 **III. OLD BUSINESS –**

- 94 a. Selectman Janosa followed up with Mr. Welch about a weekly summary for the
95 Board. Mr. Welch indicated that he is working on one and it will be out to the
96 Board within the week.
- 97 b. Selectman Semiao gave a follow up to the broadband initiative that including
98 working with the county on the service provider.
- 99 c. Selectman Semiao also gave an update on the Electric Department's impending
100 power purchase agreement, she has spoken with Brookfield and will be reaching
101 out to Nextera as well to see what pricing is available.
- 102 d. Mr. Welch discussed the bridge project on route 3, there will be a standard release
103 form that the Town will need to sign, the Board gave their consensus that Mr.
104 Welch can sign the release form.
- 105 e. Health Officer Kendall Hughes spoke with the Board about a health and safety
106 grant that is available for at risk children, he is working with Selectman Barney to
107 see how the Parks & Rec department could benefit from the grant.

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109 **MOTION:** Charles Bozzello

110 *To enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 (a & b)*

111 **SECOND:** Chris Janosa

112 **VOTE:** 5-0

113 **MOTION PASSED**

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115 **MOTION:** Andy Fitch

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

117 **SECOND:** Charles Bozzello

118 **VOTE:** 5-0

119 **MOTION PASSED**

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121 **MOTION:** Meghan Semiao

122 *To adjourn the meeting at 7:20pm*

123 **SECOND:** Andy Fitch

124 **VOTE:** 5-0

125 **MOTION PASSED**

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