



Ashfield Select Board Meeting

Monday, January 9, 2017, 7:00 pm

Ashfield Town Hall, 412 Main Street, Ashfield MA 01330

The Select Board Meeting was held at the Ashfield Town Hall in Lower Hall on January 9, 2017 at 7:00 Pm. There was one audio recorder at the Meeting. Approximately 2 audience members were in attendance at the meeting. Previous SB Meeting was held on December 27, 2016.

Select Board Members: Todd Olanyk-Chair, Tom Carter –Vice Chair, Ron Coler

Interim Town Administrator: Kayce Warren

Asst. Municipal Clerk/Scribe: Lynn Taylor

Olanyk calls the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes of 12/27/2017 as submitted. **(document 2)**

Warrants: WP17-14 Payroll & W17-14 Vendor both dated January 9, 2017 **(document 3)**

Used car license for Rimbach's Auto. **(document 4)**

Resignations of Wesley Fleming and Helene Leue from Cultural Council. **(document 5)**

Appointments of David Kulp and Rochelle Wildfong to Cultural Council.

Board members a brief discussion regarding the use of the Consent Agenda format members feel that the format is not saving them any time and at times difficult to read. However, they are willing to continue using for another meeting. Warren explains that if the Board would like to discuss an item on the consent agenda they have the ability to pull it off and discuss.

MOTION: Carter makes a motion to approve the minutes of 12/27/2017, Warrants and Used Car dealer license as submitted, seconded by Olanyk. **VOTE: 3-0-0**

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. **Resignations of Cultural Council Members:** There is a brief discussion as to the reasoning that people are resigning Warren advises that there is a term limit of six years on the council.

MOTION: Olanyk makes a motion to accept with regret and appreciation for their many years of service the resignations of Wesley Fleming and Helene Leue from the Cultural Council, Seconded by Coler. **VOTE: 3-0-0** Olanyk would like Thank You letters sent to Leue and Fleming

B. **Appointments of Cultural Council Members:**

MOTION: Carter makes a motion to appoint David Kulp and Rochelle Wildfong to fill the remaining terms of Fleming and Leue ending June 30, 2017, Seconded by Coler. **VOTE: 3-0-0**

- C. **Interim Police Chief Appointment:** Present from the Police Department are Acting Chief David Gendron, Officer Daniel Thibault, Officer Fred Bezio, and Corporal Bethann Bezio. Olanyk reads the Interim Police Chief offer letter to Corporal Bezio into the record. **(document 6)** Bezio accepts and signs the offer letter.

MOTION: Olanyk makes a motion to appoint Bethann Bezio as Interim Police Chief for the Town of Ashfield, Seconded by Carter. **VOTE: 3-0-0** Board members congratulate and Thank Bezio.

- D. **Police Chief Search Committee Process and Appointment:** Board has a brief discussion on the process. Hoping for a small and nimble search Committee yet with transparency. Olanyk questions Warren if she had any names in mind, her thoughts were Wayne Farrell -Personnel board member, David Gendron as ex-officio member, Doug Field-Emergency Manager, and Erik Nelson-citizen. Warren is not sure if Farrell and Nelson will serve as of yet. Warren has been in contact with Priscilla Phelps Chair of the Personnel Board to review the job description. Warren will be drafting a time line for the process. The Board would like a recommendation for the position by April.

Board thanks Gendron for all of his assistance in the past months. And his continued support through the hiring process.

- E. **Black Board Connect:** There is a discussion regarding the use of Black Board Connect. A resident has asked to have a reminder notice for tax bill payments put out through the Blackboard calling system. The Board reiterated their position that Blackboard will only be used for emergencies and Town-Sponsored/supported, community even notifications. Field advises the Board that the annual fee for Broadband will not increase for upcoming fiscal year.
- F. **Spillway Adequacy Notice and acknowledgement:** Coler has spoken with Dan Fletcher of Tighe and Bond he said everything is good and to move ahead with signing and mailing the acknowledgement.

MOTION: Olanyk makes a motion to authorize the Chair to sign the DCR acknowledgement letter for Ashfield Pond dam, seconded by Carter. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (document 7)** Coler would like a signed electronic copy sent to him.

- G. **Mold Abatement Update and Memorandum (document 8):** Coler distributes a draft Memorandum regarding the mold abatement. Coler advises that he will check hydrometers throughout the Hall keeping track of them on the last page of this memorandum as to keep it in the forefront. Coler checked the hydrometers and the crawl space prior to the meeting.

MOTION: Carter makes a motion to accept the memo as drafted as the Select Boards plan with moving forward with the mold remediation, Seconded by Olanyk. **VOTE: 3-0-0** Carter takes a copy of the Memo to the Building Committee who are meeting in the small meeting room.

- H. **FRCOG DLTA Funding request notice: (Document 9)** there is a brief discussion pertaining to the ranking for the Local Technical Assistance. After a brief discussion regarding a few of the items that should be on the top of the list. Warren is asked by the Board to do her best with ranking and bring to the Board meeting on January 23 for them to review.

- I. **Classification-Salary Study award (document 10):** Two request for proposals were received Donald Jacobs 90 Twinbrook Drive, Holden Ma for \$6000.00 and Christine Canning 12 Noppet Rd. Lanesborough Ma for \$8750.00. Warren as Chief Procurement Officer her recommendation is to move forward with Donald Jacobs. **MOTION:** Olanyk makes a motion to accept the Proposal from Donald Jacobs of DI Jacobs Consulting Co. for the Classification -Salary Study in the amount of \$6000.00, Seconded by Carter. **VOTE: 3-0-0** Carter questions Warren about private sector vs Municipal she will talk with Donald Jacobs about this.
- J. **MBI Communications:** David Kulp arrives at the meeting he and the Board have a brief discussion regarding a letter sent from MBI to Municipal leaders regarding steps moving forward for 2017. Kulp advises he has been in contact with Bill Ennen Last mile liaison. Kulp advises for now we have to wait to see the responses from the recent RFP sent out by MBI to private providers. The pole survey for Ashfield is complete at this time. Kulp and the Tech Committee are going to reach out Adam Hinds to discuss Broadband. The Select Board and IT Committee received a letter from John and Cass Nawrocki (**Document 11**) asking the Board to halt any further action on the present course until Crocker Communications can be examined and strongly considered. Kulp responded to the Nawrockis' letter, the Board thanks him for doing so.
- K. **Broadband financing:** Nothing to report

TOWN ADMINISTRATORS REPORT:

- Corporal Bezio has revised some new policies for the Board to review at their next meeting.
- Backhoe is in Town and Treasurer is working on the financing should be ready for signatures at the next meeting.
- Budget sheets are being sent out to the departments.
- Warren asks to have the following paragraph put in tonight's minutes: **It was brought to my attention that statements made by me in the December 7, 2016, Select Board Meeting minutes may have given the appearance that some office duties were not or might not be performed adequately. It was not my intent to convey a negative impression, merely to discuss with the Select Board transparently, some options to manage workflow. By having the discussion at the Select Board meeting, I intended to collaboratively develop solutions to managing office hours and workload resulting from recent personnel transitions.**
- Poissant has been working with the DOT and has submitted the paperwork for small bridges grant. Board asks Warren to have Poissant attend the 1/23/2017 for a department update.
- Olanyk has a brief discussion with other Board members on policy if any for residents taking sand and salt from the Highway shed. Olanyk advises either Christmas day or New Years' he saw a truck with sander full leaving the shed. Will discuss with Poissant at the next meeting.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Next Select Board Meeting will be January 23, 2017 @ 7:00PM

ADJOURN

MOTION: Coler makes a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm, Seconded by Carter.

VOTE: 3-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM

Document List:

1. Agenda for 01/09/2017
2. Minutes of 12/27/2017
3. Warrants: WP17-14 Payroll & W17-14 Vendor both dated January 9, 2017
4. Used car license for Rimbach's Auto.
5. Resignations of Wesley Fleming and Helene Leue from Cultural Council.
6. Interim Police Chief offer letter
7. DCR acknowledgement letter for Ashfield Pond dam
8. Mold Abatement Update and Memorandum
9. FRCOG DLTA Funding request notice
10. Classification-Salary Study award
11. Letter from John and Cass Nawrocki