

Town of Ashfield  
Select Board Meeting Minutes

August 22, 2016

The Select Board Meeting was held at the Ashfield Town Hall in lower Hall on August 22, 2016 at 7:00 Pm. There were 2 audio recorders at the Meeting. Approximately 15 audience member were in attendance at the meeting

**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 7:01PM

**Warrants:**

Vendor Warrant W17-05 Dated August 22, 2016 (**document 2**)

Payroll Warrant WP17-05 Dated August 22, 2016 (**document 3**)

**Minutes:**

SB Minutes of August 8, 2016: **MOTION:** Coler makes a motion to accept the minutes of August 8, 2016 as submitted, seconded by Carter. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (document 4)**

**Appointments with the Select Board:**

**A. Julie Datres, Assistant Attorney General- Abandoned Housing**

**Initiative:** Datres gives the Board folders containing information pertaining to the Abandoned Housing Initiative (**document 5**) Datres proceeds by introducing herself and giving an overview of the Initiative. She explains she has been in contact with Claudia Lucas Health Agent for Ashfield regarding the property of 136 Buckland Road. After speaking with Lucas and driving by the property site Datres feels that if authorized by the Select Board this property may be a candidate for the program. The program if authorized would be of no cost to the Town, if there are any taxes due on the property the Municipality would receive that first. If this is authorized by the SB and the BOH the process would start with a more in-depth site visit and Inspection, AG would then conduct a Title Search to identify owners and

parties of interest, try and identify a potential receiver, AGO would contact owners and owners cooperation or lack of cooperation will determine the direction. Dares advises that this whole process would be very transparent with reports from the receiver every 60 days. **MOTION:** Carter makes a motion to authorize the Attorney General's Office with the support of the Board of health and its Agent to proceed with the Abandoned Housing Initiative for the property at 136 Buckland Rd, seconded by Coler. **VOTE: 3-0-0**

**B. David Kulp, Ashfield MLP Director –Memorandum of Agreement with MBI:** Information provided by Kulp Memorandum of Agreement (**document 6**) MBI readiness evaluation and recommendation for Town of Ashfield (**document 7**) Last Mile Readiness Submission Form (**document 8**) Pole attachment Agreement with Verizon (**document 9**) Kulp advises he has spoken with Town Counsel regarding the Memorandum of Agreement – pole survey work to which she has given her approval to move forward with. The Board and Kulp engage in a lengthy discussion on the Broadband issue. Carter questions why there is a total construction cost difference of about 630K in the readiness evaluation contract, Kulp feels the difference is the Professional Services. Olanyk share his views regarding moving forward in signing these contracts without having at least an informational hearing for the residents as he remembers the Board agreed to keep residents informed before moving in any definite direction. Kulp reads a transcription from the Town Meeting into the record. The Board agrees to hold a Public Hearing on September 26, 2016 at 7 PM. **MOTION:** Carter moves that the SB authorize the Chair of the SB to sign the Readiness Evaluation and Recommendation for the Town of Ashfield and the Memorandum of Agreement contingent on the discrepancy of roughly \$630K, seconded by Coler. **VOTE: 3-0-0** Board also agrees to allow Kulp to move ahead with the Pole attachment Agreement.

**Police Chief hiring Process:** There has been discussions with Corporal Bezio in regards to appointing an Interim Police Chief. Carter has met with former Ashfield Police Chief Gary Sabilia who now works for Deerfield and Deerfield's Chief both have agreed to have Sabilia help with the training of the two Officers that are not yet ready to be on their own. They will ride along with Sabilia in Deerfield free of charge until they are fully trained.

Warren recommends the Board hire David Gendron as an Interim Police Chief. He is a retired Police Chief from the Town of Erving who now holds a fulltime job at

Deerfield Academy as head of security. The feeling is the Town will need coverage until at least December in order to allow educate time to make a decision on a direction for the Chief Position. The Board would like to see about 10 to 15 hours of Chief time and more routine Officers on duty. **MOTION** is made and seconded to meet as a SB on Friday August 8, 2016 with David Gendron regarding the appointment of Interim Police Chief. **VOTE: 3-0-0**

**Police Cruiser-Explorer:** Estimate from Cartelli Ford in Greenfield is in the amount of \$4,876.79 (**document 10**) after a short discussion the Board agrees to repair the cruiser. Carter advises he stopped in Greenfield to meet with them regarding the cruiser repair, he was able to have them also throw in a complete detail including the interior and a repair of the back gate as it does not open free of charge.

**Appointment of David Newell as Vocational Educational Coordinator:** At a previous meeting the Finance Committee Chair asked to have David Newell appointed to this position. **MOTION:** Carter makes a motion to appoint David Newell as the Vocational Education Coordinator as Special Municipal Employee for a term of 1 Yr, seconded by Coler. **VOTE: 3-0-0** duties of Voke Ed Coordinator (**document 14**)

**Appointment of Rick Chandler as Mohawk Trail Woodlands partnership Representative:** **MOTION:** Olanyk makes a motion to appoint Rick Chandler as Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Representative, seconded by Carter. **VOTE: 3-0-0**

**Letter to FERC-Suggested Improvements to the FERC process;** The letter was drafted by Ron Coler (**document 11**) Carter thought it was a fabulous letter that was nicely written. Board agrees to vote with their signatures.

**Small trash bags:** Coler has a brief discussion as to the reasoning for the Board putting off the purchase of the small trash bags at a resent Board Meeting that he had not attended. It was explained the desire to wait until such time the work at the Transfer Station was able to be finished, and numbers regarding expenses could be pulled together. Coler requested contact information for Kathleen at HRMC he would like to contact her for a spreadsheet detailing the recycling costs for Ashfield.

**MCAP Update:** Olanyk as representative to MCAP advises the rest of the Board that in his opinion MCAP is headed in a totally different direction than when it was formed. He feels that with the new direction it's not appropriate for the Town to

continue to stay in MCAP. Olanyk will email them letting them know the decision of SB. **MOTION:** Olanyk makes a motion to withdraw from the MCAP Organization, seconded by Carter. **VOTE: 3-0-0**

**Financial Policies: (document 12)** Warren explains that the Finance Committee met with herself and Joe Markarian to do a final review of the Financial Policies. The Tax Collector as well as the Town Accountant had comments for the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee would like the Select Board to review before the next Fin Comm. meeting in September. Carter suggests that this also be forwarded on to the Auditors as well for their thoughts.

### **Interim Town Administrator Report:**

Warren Advises she will be meeting with Stuart Harris and Kyle Taylor regarding the mold issue in the basement to determine the next steps to take. Board was given a copy of the report (**document 13**)

**Upcoming SB Meetings: August 25, 2016 @10:00 AM & September 6, 2016 @ 7:00 PM**

Carter makes a motion to adjourn @ 9:12 PM, seconded by Coler. VOTE: 3-0-0

### ***Document List***

1. Agenda for 8/22/2016
2. Vendor Warrant W17-05 Dated August 22, 2016
3. Payroll Warrant WP17-05 Dated August 22, 2016
4. SB Minutes of August 8, 2016
5. Abandoned Housing Initiative information folder
6. Memorandum of Agreement
7. MBI readiness evaluation and recommendation for Town of Ashfield
8. Last Mile Readiness Submission Form
9. Pole attachment Agreement with Verizon
10. Estimate from Cartelli Ford in Greenfield is in the amount of \$4,876.79 for repairs to the Explorer.
11. Letter to FERC-Suggested Improvements to the FERC process
12. Financial Policies
13. Mold report
14. Duties of Voke Ed Coordinator

