



## Ashfield Select Board Meeting

Monday, March 20, 2017, 7:00 pm

Ashfield Town Hall, 412 Main Street, Ashfield MA 01330

Pursuant to a notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, a meeting of the Select Board was held in Town Hall at 7:00 PM.

Present: Todd Olanyk, Chair; Thomas Carter, Vice-Chair; and Ron Coler.

Also Present: Kayce Warren, Town Administrator; Bridget Rodrigue, Town Clerk; Doug Field, Police Chief Search Committee; Buz Eisenberg, Moderator; Beth Bezio, Interim Police Chief; David Kulp, Technology Committee; Wayne Wickland, resident; and Kyle Taylor, resident.

### Meeting Convenes at 7:00 PM

#### A. Two recording devices were present at this meeting

#### Consent Agenda:

Minutes	03/06/2017	As submitted
Warrants	W 17-20 Payroll W 17-20 Vendor	
License Approval	Bacon's Garage	Class II Dealers (Used Vehicle)

*Motion to approve consent agenda: Olanyk      Second: Carter      Vote: 3-0-0*

#### Appointments with the Select Board: No Appointments

#### Discussion/Decision Items:

##### A. Police Chief Recommendation:

Warren explained the point structure of the interviews conducted by this committee. Mr. Field says all committee members scored applicants without any discussion between each other. He said everyone was in agreement over the ratings of the candidates. The Police Chief Search Committee interviewed six members and have chosen two finalist for the Select Board to interview.

*Motion to have Town Administrator extend thanks to search committee: Carter*

*Second: Coler Vote: 3-0-0*

After some discussion, it was decided that finalist interviews would be scheduled for March 28<sup>th</sup> between 9 am and 11 am.

**B. Assessing Services Contract Award Recommendation:**

Patriot Properties came in as the lowest bidder and the Assessors have no issues with this bid.

*Motion to accept contracted services of Patriot Properties: Carter                      Second: Olanyk*  
*Vote: 3-0-0*

**C. Special Town Meeting Warrant:**

Article 1: Transfer \$2,300 from Assessor's Overlay Account to the Assessor's Expense Account.

Article 2: Transfer \$1,000 from Health Insurance Expense to Retiree Health Insurance Expense.

Article 3: Transfer \$3,476.04 from Pipeline Opposition Mitigation Account and \$1,523.96 from Compensation Study Account for a total of \$5,000 to Tree Warden Expense Account (This will empty the Compensation Study Account).

Article 4: Transfer \$2,858.67 from Sweeper Mower Account and \$841.33 from Assistant Municipal Clerk Salary Account for a total of \$3,700 to Treasurer Salary Account. (Needed to cover the payout from the retirement of the Treasurer).

Article 5: Transfer \$450 from Assistant Municipal Clerk Salary Account to Treasurer Expense Account. (Unexpected expenses after Treasurer's retirement to relocate software, etc.).

Article 6: Transfer \$1,250 from Elections Expense Account to Town Clerk Expense Account. (To be used for training and supplies).

Article 7: Transfer \$700 from Elections Expense Account to Special Project Staffing Account. (To be used to pay Rodrigue scribe the Select Board Minutes for the remainder of this fiscal year).

Article 8: Transfer a sum of money from Vocational Education Account to Winter Roads for snow and ice removal activities. (Warren is expecting to have a number for this article shortly).

Article 9: Transfer \$21,000 from Vocational Education Account to Police Cruiser Account. (Interim Police Chief Bezio has a quote for the cruiser and this will be enough to cover the cost. The new cruiser will be a black unmarked car).

Article 10: Transfer \$11,500 to pay for prior years' cumulative unemployment assessments from Vocational Education Account into Unemployment Expense Account. (Warren spoke with Herzog this afternoon and she is waiting for more information as to why this was not caught earlier Carter is concerned that no letter was sent to inform the Town of any late payments and now the Town is being assessed over \$3,000 in interest fees. He also feels this should not be taken up until we have more information on this issue. Warren explains this dates back to 2011 and she is doing research to find out what happened. Olanyk feels this should still be left on the Special

Town Meeting Warrant just in case the Town is responsible for this amount. Warren said this could also be placed on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Olanyk feels it would be easier to do this at the Special Town Meeting. Coler says we could keep this on the warrant, but not cut a check until we have all the details. Eisenberg suggests keeping this on the warrant to show the town is acting in good faith to pay the amount).

Warren says this will not be paid until the Town has all the details, if approved at STM.

***Motion to approve the warrant for STM: Olanyk    Second: Coler            Vote: 2-0-1 (Carter abstained)***

**D. Eversource Rate Change:**

Eversource is asking for a letter of support from the Select Board regarding a price increase. Select Board is not in favor of this price increase and feels no discussion is needed.

**E. UMass Clean Energy Extension Study for Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership**

Letter asking for read-only access to our energy data. This data will be used to determine whether there will be a reduction in heating costs. Rick Candler is in favor of having the board sign this document.

***Motion to authorize the chair to sign letter: Olanyk            Second: Carter            Vote: 3-0-0***

**F. Town Hall Use Application – Double Edge Theater**

Double Edge Theater has put in an application for Upper and Lower Hall as part of the Ashfield Town Spectacle>

***Motion to approve: Carter                            Second: Coler                            Vote: 3-0-0***

Coler asked if the Police coverage will be paid for by the event. Interim Chief Bezio advised Double Edge that this event would require officers and has provided them with the quote. She is waiting to hear back from Adam.

**G. ABCC Seasonal Resident Population:**

The ABCC sent out a seasonal resident population form for the Town to complete. Warren spoke with the Fire Chief who says the Town grows between 50 and 100 people during the summer months.

***Motion to increase population by 100 and sign form: Carter                            Second: Coler  
Vote: 3-0-0***

**H. FRCOG Fuel Contracts:**

Bid is put together for the whole county and Ashfield is not required to accept the bid. You are required to purchase all the fuel you request. Warren asked to put numbers on the low side to reduce the chance of having to purchase any excess fuel.

*Motion to allow FRCOG to bid our fuel: Carter                      Second: Coler                      Vote: 3-0-0*

**I. Zobrio Quote:**

Warren says the quote has been reduced from \$7200 to \$5500 for next year. In order to lock in this rate, the Select Board must sign off on this price. Zobrio understands that the town will only be able to do this if the residents approve this amount at the Annual Town Meeting.

Zobrio also makes a collector’s module, but Lynn Taylor has asked to stay with Point for the first year as she becomes acclimated to her new position. Select Board would like to know what this additional cost would be compared to what we are currently paying for Point.

*Motion to approve Zobrio for the Treasurer: Carter                      Second: Coler                      Vote: 3-0-0*

**J. Annual Franklin Land Trust D2R2 Notice:**

Warren has notified all Public Safety Officials.

**K. Salary Study Update:**

Warren still collecting documents from current employees and will be sending off shortly.

**L. Mold Remediation Update:**

Coler passed out his calculations and said the current numbers are looking good. Warren said the cleanout will start in the large crawl space and Interim Police Chief Bezio has put in a record destruction request.

**M. MBI Communications/Broadband Financing:**

I. Revised Cost Estimate – no discussion at this time.

II. WG & E Contract – Carter does not want us to get ahead of ourselves. We do not want to be committed to spending money that we do not have at this point in time. Waiting to hear from Counsel and Kulp. Will move forward once Counsel has made her revisions to the contract. One revision is adding a clause that says anything expected to exceed \$50,000 will need a new contract. Kulp feels once we have this modified language, it should be ready to go. Kulp has scheduled a meeting with WG & E for Thursday morning to discuss the changes to the contract.

III. Letter to Deputy Secretary Kirk –want the full amount to be allocated and not split out between design & engineering and construction. Board also feels the state money should be used first. Olanyk says we should have a substantial amount left over from the design & engineering allocation.

*Motion to authorize Chair to sign: Coler*

*Second: Carter*

*Vote: 3-0-0*

Rename to Broadband Status Project Report. The MLP Advisory Minutes should be part of this discussion at Select Board Meetings.

### **Town Administrator's Report**

- Warren asks the Board if they would like a comment section. Members do not feel this is necessary.
- Update tuition numbers from Franklin County Tech.

### **Mail:**

- Quarterly Select Board Meeting – Olanyk will be attending.
- Planning Board Request – Senior Housing Article on ATM Warrant. Rice will be holding another hearing on the Senior Housing Article. Warren can put this as place holder.
- Police Chief Notification – Franklin County Regional Emergency Communication Center Proposal. Chief Bezio says this will be at a regional dispatch center in a new safety complex. State is looking to combine dispatch centers. Bezio says she would rather focus on radio and tower communications at this point in time. No commitment and not cost, but all towns in Franklin County must sign off on allowing the state to look into this regional center. This new dispatch center would be funded by the state. This is just a notification. No incentives at this point in time. This is not a contract. Just a preview of what is coming.
- FRRS – Retirees' COLA FY2018 – 3% increase.
- Local Officials Workshop – Climate Change. Olanyk will be attending. How climate change will affect infrastructure.
- Franklin County Justice Center Opening Ceremony – Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 2pm.
- Plainfield Select Board – Invitation to Broadband Discussion on Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 pm. Kulp will be attending along with some MLP Advisory Members. Kulp will post a meeting of the MLP for this if a quorum will be present.

- FRCOG – Traffic Counting. This is important to have for grant proposals. Would help to prioritize our infrastructure projects.
- FRCOG – Bicycle Parking Program. Should forward to the Parks Commission and the Library Trustees.
- Roberts Bros. Lumber – Carter would like to have someone look at the logs and the fact that they are right on the road. He is concerned about the town’s liability. Coler feels this issue should be brought forth by the Highway Department. This is a frequently traveled road and is a concern. Chief Bezio will patrol and take pictures of the logs. Coler would also like to send Tom Poissant to take a look to make sure the logs are not damaging the blacktop.
- Letter notifying the town that Roberts Bros. Lumber will be producing biomass energy products and seasoned lumber. This is a letter informing the town that they are looking into the Economic Development Incentive Program. Warren said in the past, the state has liked to see a commitment from towns for similar goals.
- Shelburne Senior Center Final Feasibility Presentation – Warren has the feasibility and presentation for the board to review. She is waiting to hear back from Buckland. This conversation helps determine how much money to allocate for this project. Shelburne forwarded a copy of their Town Meeting Article for \$15,000.

**Public Comment - None**

**Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting**

A. Chapter 90 Reimbursement Forms

***Motion to allow Chair to sign: Carter                      Second: Olanyk                      Vote: 2-0-0 (Coler out of the room during this discussion).***

Coler returns and feels Ashfield should take the lead in this project. Coler attended the presentation and feels we do not have the luxury of time on this and would like to see this be addressed quickly.

Mr. Wickland said towns need to show good faith so they can apply for grants.

**Upcoming Meetings** – April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting will need to be cancelled or rescheduled. Change to April 4<sup>th</sup> from 6 pm – 7 pm. Add Executive Session to the end of the March 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Adjourn: 9:25 PM**

***Motion to adjourn: Olanyk                      Second: Coler                      Vote: 3-0-0***

Respectfully submitted,



Bridget S. Rodrigue, Town Clerk

**Document List:**

1. Agenda for March 20, 2017 Meeting
2. Ashfield Expense Report (run date 03/20/2017)
3. Minutes from the March 6, 2017 meeting
4. Bacon's Garage Used Car Dealer Application
5. Bacon's Garage Used Car Dealer License
6. Police Chief Search Committee Recommendation for Finalists
7. Assessing Services Recommendation
8. Special Town Meeting Warrant
9. Eversource Rate Review Support Letter and Information
10. Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership Information Request
11. Letter from Select Board to Jim Barry to allow UMASS read-only access to Ashfield's energy data
12. Town Hall Use Application from Double Edge Theater
13. ABCC Seasonal Resident Population Form
14. FRCOG Cooperative Fuel Bid Invite
15. Zobrio Cash Management Quote
16. Franklin Land Trust D2R2 Notice
17. Mold Temperature/Humidity Update
18. Letter to Deputy Secretary Carolyn Kirk
19. FCSA Quarterly Meeting Notice
20. Planning Board Request to place Senior Housing Proposal on ATM Warrant
21. Franklin County Regional Emergency Communication Center Proposal
22. Retirees COLA Letter
23. FRCOG Local Officials Workshop Invitation – Climate Change
24. Franklin County Justice Center Opening Ceremony Invitation
25. Plainfield Select Board Broadband Discussion Invitation
26. FRCOG – Traffic Counting Program Information
27. FRCOG – Bicycle Parking Program Information
28. Roberts Bros. Lumber Co. Letter – Intent to Apply for EDIP
29. Shelburne Senior Center Feasibility Study – October 26, 2015
30. Chapter 90 Reimbursement Forms
31. Revised FY2018 Budget Meeting Schedule
32. Agenda for March 27, 2017 Budget Meeting