



## Ashfield Select Board Meeting

Monday, May 1, 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; Buz Eisenberg, Moderator; Tom Poissant, Highway Superintendent; Ted Murray, Finance Committee; Kyle Taylor, and Beth Bezio, Police Chief.

### Meeting Convened at 7:04 PM

#### A. One recording device present at this meeting

#### Consent Agenda:

Minutes	4/18/2017 (removed 4/10/17 minutes)	As submitted
Warrants	W 17-23 Payroll W 17-23 Vendor	

*Motion to approve consent agenda: Carter*

*Second: Coler      Vote: 3-0-0*

#### Appointments with the Select Board:

##### A. Superintendent Poissant – Bridge update, culvert grant, Transfer Station improvements:

Mr. Poissant received the Tighe & Bond Landfill Monitoring Report and stated that overall the Town is in good shape. There has been some minor impact on water at the brook, which might be easily corrected by taking care of the storm water runoff. A private well was also tested and was determined to be good quality drinking water. There was also no methane observed.

Mr. Poissant stated the Baptist Corner Road culvert project is slowly moving forward. The State is using this culvert as a training project. Mr. Poissant said the culvert will have 19 foot wide concrete stem walls with a metal arch above (underground). Currently, this culvert has a five foot corrugated metal pipe. The grade of road will not change significantly and Mr. Poissant believes we will have funding to see the culvert project all the way through construction.

There is a culvert replacement municipal assistance program coming out that will provide \$750,000 a year state wide, and towns can apply for funding. Towns will be based on value of the ecological benefit of their culvert replacement. Poissant believes the structure on Watson Road would be a possibility since it is degrading. Olanyk feels there might be some fish species on the endangered list in that area. Mr. Poissant said there are also some other culverts that might

qualify for grant assistance. Carter asked about the culvert heading out on Hawley Road where the beavers usually are. Mr. Poissant says this has not been much of a problem recently, but he will continue to monitor this culvert.

Olanyk asked Mr. Poissant about the Apple Valley Road Bridge. Mr. Poissant said he is waiting on an engineering proposal and then a designer will be selected. These two items need to be completed before we can enter into an agreement with MassDOT. Olanyk mentioned that people are now driving around the barriers on this bridge. Mr. Poissant said he can either fix the barriers to prevent this or reopen the bridge. The conditions of this bridge have not changed since last fall. Mr. Poissant feels this road does not get heavy traffic, so opening it would not cause any additional damage. He feels the bridge should be opened and closely monitored.

***Motion to direct Highway Superintendent to open one lane of the Apple Valley Bridge: Carter***

***Second: Olanyk                      Vote: 3-0-0***

### **B. Chief Bezio – Department Update**

Chief Bezio informed the Select Board that the department is running smoothly. She stated the department has been busy responding to call pertaining to breaking and entering, burning of personal property, and civil disputes. The department has also conducted some wellness checks.

Chief Bezio announced she has been going through the Police Department records; working on getting rid of old records and creating a new file system for the remainder. She has scheduled to have all old files professionally shredded.

The new police cruiser is on order and Chief Bezio is hoping to have it delivered by Memorial Day. Carter asked if the old cruiser will be sold. Olanyk feels the old cruiser should be used to limit the miles on the newer vehicles. Carter does not believe the department should retain three vehicles. Coler said he has no problem with keeping the old cruiser and running it into the ground, as long as the department does not morph into a three-cruiser department.

Bezio would also like to request to have the remaining funds transferred from the Police Chief Wage Account to the Police Expense/Reserve Officer Wages Account to cover additional shifts to help with busy nights, i.e. Thursdays and Saturdays.

***Motion to approve to transfer funds from Police Chief Wage account to Police Expense/Reserve Officer Wages Account: Carter***

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

Police Department Policies- Chief Bezio has submitted some updated policies for Select Board approval.

***Motion to table at this time: Carter***

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

### **C. Moderator – ATM Warrant, Motions, Talking Points**

Mr. Eisenberg announced that he will ask those present at Town Meeting if there are any objections to him combining some of the school articles. This consolidation would save some time. Mr. Eisenberg would like to have the summary of the budget after some of the housekeeping articles to give people an overall sense of where we are headed. Ted Murray agreed that this has proven to be helpful and that it needs to be short. Mr. Murray feels it might be able to be shortened to 3 or 4 slides, and offered to do this presentation. This would be a purely factual presentation.

Mr. Murray said there is a recommendation from the finance that supports each warrant article except for Article 17. The Finance Committee wanted to research the cost associated with the energy manager because they believe this line item may be unnecessary. Mr. Murray has spoken to Brian Clark who reached out to Jim Cutler the current energy manager. Mr. Cutler's tow year contract with the Town ended last October and was paid in two installments. Mr. Cutler had no objections to the Town not renewing the contract. Both Mr. Clark and Mr. Murray believe everything is in order to eliminate this line item. Olanyk says this can be changed on the floor at Town Meeting. With the removal of the energy manager line, Article 17 will now be \$408,878.

***Motion to strike energy manager position and stipend: Carter***

***Second: Olanyk Vote: 3-0-0***

Also, Mr. Murray questioned payment of second portion of this year's energy manager since there is no contract. Carter stated the Board will take this request under advisement and speak with Green Communities and Jim Cutler to determine the best course of action.

**Article Assignments:**

<b>Article 1</b>	Olanyk	<b>Article 11</b>	School Committee	<b>Article 21</b>	Coler	<b>Article 31</b>	Olanyk
<b>Article 2</b>	G. Stephan	<b>Article 12</b>	Table	<b>Article 22</b>	Olanyk	<b>Article 32</b>	Carter
<b>Article 3</b>	Carter	<b>Article 13</b>	Table	<b>Article 23</b>	Carter	<b>Article 33</b>	Nancy Hoff
<b>Article 4</b>	Coler	<b>Article 14</b>	Table	<b>Article 24</b>	Coler	<b>Article 34</b>	Coler
<b>Article 5</b>	Olanyk	<b>Article 15</b>	Coler	<b>Article 25</b>	Olanyk	<b>Article 35</b>	Michael Fitzgerald
<b>Article 6</b>	Carter	<b>Article 16</b>	Olanyk	<b>Article 26</b>	Carter	<b>Article 36</b>	Citizen Petition
<b>Article 7</b>	School Committee	<b>Article 17</b>	Carter	<b>Article 27</b>	Coler	<b>Article 37</b>	Citizen Petition
<b>Article 8</b>	School Committee	<b>Article 18</b>	Coler	<b>Article 28</b>	Olanyk		

<b>Article 9</b>	School Committee	<b>Article 19</b>	Olanyk	<b>Article 29</b>	Carter
<b>Article 10</b>	School Committee	<b>Article 20</b>	Carter	<b>Article 30</b>	Coler

\*\*\*Add simple majority to Article 34 and 2/3 majority to Article 35\*\*\*

Mr. Eisenberg also informed the Select Board that he has given permission for the new Ashfield Directory to be sold in the foyer during Town Meeting. He stated he is allowing this because the Ashfield Directory benefits the Town and is not for profit. Mr. Eisenberg also mentioned that he has approved a factual handout for Article 36.

Carter would also like Ted Murray to address Article 16 during the budget presentation.

### **Discussion/Decision Items:**

#### **A. Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant**

Mr. Poissant believes this grant would be beneficial but stated there are other items on his priority list at this point in time, i.e. bridges, culvert, and Transfer Station are of greater concern.

At this point, the grant is only offering funds for technical assistance. This assistance would help the Town identify its vulnerabilities and strengths. Warren said it is estimated to take a municipal employee 80 hours of time. Warren stated there is a short time period to apply for this grant, but she feels it could turn into something more. Carter stated the need to start addressing issues instead of studying them. Warren suggested reaching out to FRCOG for help with this grant.

#### **B. Salary Study Update**

Warren asked the Select Board if they would like to have this study focus on any specific towns. Board felt the study should focus on all comparable towns, not limited to Franklin County. Warren stated the study is progressing and employee meetings will be scheduled shortly.

#### **C. Mold Remediation Update**

Air testing after the crawl space was cleaned and everything looks good. Mold remediation will resume on Monday. Warren received confirmation from the insurance company that they will pay the \$20,000.

#### **D. Broadband Project Status Update**

##### **i. Matrix Proposal:**

Chris from Matrix spoke with WG&E and confirmed they charge \$400 per pole. He suggested increasing this number to \$500 per pole as a precaution. Ashfield has three entry points and Matrix is estimating that the Town will be short somewhere between \$400,000 and \$800,000.

##### **ii. WG & E Contract: No updates at this time.**

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

Radio System – The current radio system needs updating within the next five years. We are starting to investigate various areas in Town for connectivity. Also, looking to determine the number of radios needed. If we have to replace the entire system, the cost will be between 5 – 15 million.

## **Mail:**

Highland Ambulance EMS – Warren attended the Highland Ambulance meeting and informed the Select Board that there were changes made to the loan, which saves the Town money. Carter asked if there was talk about structuring the debt differently. Warren brought this up and asked them to consider it. Warren suggested preparing a proposal to send to Highland and other area towns.

FRCOG Email – related to Green Communities – Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources announced availability of additional funding through the Municipal Energy Technical Assistance Grant for FRCOG to assist towns with Green Communities-related tasks. Olanyk is open to this if the Green Communities Committee is unable to do this work themselves.

Update from Mohawk Trails Woodlands Partnership – May 15, 2017 at Hawlemont Elementary School from 6-8 pm.

Tighe & Bond first page of landfill closure. Warren asked for electronic copies of report. Also update with CAD design. Design will be ready before the end of June.

BMC Nurses Appeal – Invitation to attend their informational picket on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mass Cultural Council Appeal – support in telling legislature to fund this. Olanyk would like to know how this money is used.

## **Public Comment - None**

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

## **Upcoming Meetings**

Cancel the meeting of May 15<sup>th</sup>. Next meeting would be May 30<sup>th</sup>. First order of business will be the reorganization of the Select Board.

## **Adjourn: 9:14 pm**

*Motion to adjourn at 9:14 pm: Coler*

*Second: Carter Vote: 3-0-0*

Respectfully submitted,



Bridget S. Rodrigue, Town Clerk

**Document List:**

1. Agenda for May 1, 2017 meeting
2. Minutes from the April 18, 2017 meeting
3. Ashfield Expense Report (Run date: 4/30/2017)
4. Municipal Bridge Program – Edited NFA Municipal Agreement
5. Culvert Replacement Municipal Assistant Grant Program
6. Tighe & Bond Landfill Report Email
7. Annual Town Meeting Motions & Talking Points
8. Police Department Transfer Request
9. Police Department Eyewitness Identification Policy
10. Police Department Off Duty Employment Policy
11. Police Department Public Records Requests Policy
12. Police Department Seat Belt Usage Policy
13. Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program Information Session Email
14. Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Grant Program RFR
15. Walt Baenziger Laboratory Report re: Mold Remediation Work
16. Matrix Design Proposal
17. Highland Ambulance Financial Documents
18. FRCOG Green Communities Assistance
19. Mohawk Trail Woodlands Partnership
20. Tighe & Bond Transfer Station Closure Reports and CAD Update
21. Baystate Franklin Medical Center Nurses Appeal
22. Massachusetts Cultural Council Funding Appeal
23. Mold Abatement – Temperature/Humidity Report 4/18/2017