



Ashfield Select Board Meeting

Tuesday, May 23, 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; and Ron Coler.

Absent: Tom Carter

Also Present: Kayce Warren, Town Administrator; Bridget Rodrigue, Town Clerk; David Kulp, MLP Advisory; Adam Bright, Double Edge Theater; and Joanne Ostrowski, resident.

Meeting Convened at 7:00 PM

A. Two recording device present at this meeting

Minutes – None at this time.

Appointments with the Select Board:

Discussion/Decision Items:

A. Double Edge Productions, Inc. – Agreement for Use of Town Property

Adam Bright from the Double Edge Theater was present to discuss the performer placement wire ropes system for use during the Town Spectacle. Warren stated Town Counsel developed the contract, and Mr. Bright worked everything out with Mr. Poissant, the Highway Superintendent. A certificate of insurance has also been received.

Motion to accept and have chair sign contract: Coler

Second: Olanyk Vote: 2-0-0

B. Executive Office of Housing & Economic Development – Broadband Grant Contract

David Kulp stated the contract in front of the Select Board was hand-delivered and is the grant agreement between the Town of Ashfield and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development. The state would like to move quickly on this agreement, in order to make it into FY2017. Mr. Kulp reviewed this contract and stated there was only one point of particular. The project budget in this contract shows the Town of Ashfield contributing 2.83 which is not what was budgeted. There has been discussion about the modeling being low and whether the legislature might come up with some supplemental budgeting. End result is that this number was used for the budget projections in this contract (number should be 2.3 million instead of 2.8 million). The Town is not in default if we do not end up contributing all this money. The state is aware that towns might have difficulty raising this

money, and that costs might be larger than anticipated. Mr. Kulp said the agreement can be amended to reflect the original numbers or can be left as it is. The Town has the ability to request acceptable modifications to this grant at any time. For example, the application said Ashfield would pass 100% of homes, whereas the state said we would only need to pass 96% of homes. This could be modified at a later date if the Town needs to lower their initial goal. Mr. Kulp stated there is flexibility as the scope of this project progresses.

Olanyk stated he understands but he does not feel comfortable signing off on something the town did not vote on. Olanyk would like to commit to the 2.3 million. Coler agreed and stated he did not want to give the appearance of deficit spending. Coler wanted to move on this, and it was decided to take the original contract, cross out 2.8 million and change it to 2.3 million. Olanyk will initial under each change.

Olanyk and Coler asked David Kulp about the timeline for the project and Mr. Kulp stated the schedule seems reasonable but it is difficult to project. Mr. Kulp expects five other towns to sign with WG&E this week, which could possibly slow things down. Coler would like to get this grant agreement signed so Ashfield does not have to compete with these other towns.

David Kulp explained that MBI has spent at least \$40,000 on our behalf, and the contract does not subtract out this amount. He would like to have this signed before the state tries to adjust the numbers.

Olanyk asked if it will be difficult to administer. Mr. Kulp does not think it will be difficult but there will be some accounting maintenance. Warren will be involved to make sure the reporting is done correctly and that all deadlines are met.

Motion to authorize the Chair to sign the contract EOHED with two amendments, page 2 and 11 replacing amount to 2.3 million: Coler

Second: Olanyk Vote: 2-0-0

Town Administrator's Report:

Audit Report – Management Letter has arrived. The Town Administrator and Accountant will be able to provide feedback. Warren would like this available on the website once the new website is ready. No significant deficiencies. Overall, the Town is looking good.

Mail:

Student asking to sit with stakeholders to discuss broadband in town. David Kulp would be happy to discuss this with her.

Public Comment –

Joanne Ostrowski, Smith Road resident, asked if the Double Edge Theater received approval for their performance request. Coler informed her that the agreement was signed and that this agreement was approved by Town Counsel. Ms. Ostrowski also stated she is concerned with the state of Smith Road. She informed the Board that the lower road has water pooling in the middle. Coler noticed this and Olanyk will reach out to Poissant to see if anything can be done here. Joanne Ostrowski also asked about the \$100,000 earmarked for the Transfer Station. Olanyk ex-

plained that the Town is working with the DEP to address some concerns at the Transfer Station. He explained this money will be used to recover areas of the landfill, monitor the wells, fencing, vegetation, etc. Ms. Ostrowski also asked about the status of the retaining wall. Coler said we are still looking for grant funding. The Select Board is concerned and looking for funding for both the retaining wall and lake dam.

Items Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of the Meeting – N/A

Upcoming Meetings – May 30, 2017

Adjourn: 7:54

Motion to adjourn: Coler

Second: Olanyk *Vote: 2-0-0*

Respectfully submitted,



Bridget S. Rodrigue, Town Clerk

Document List:

1. Agenda for May 23, 2017 meeting
2. Email from Tom Poissant regarding Outdoor Performance on Ashfield Lake (5/22/17)
3. Contract between Town of Ashfield and Double Edge Theater Productions, Inc.
4. Commonwealth of Massachusetts Standard Contract Form Agreement Between Town of Ashfield and the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development (Grant Agreement)
5. FRCOG Letter of Support for the joint application of Ashfield and Conway to the Municipal Vulnerability Grant Program
6. Draft Agenda for May 30, 2017 meeting