

Approved as amended 8/24/2015 2-0-0

**Town of Ashfield**  
**Select Board Meeting Minutes**

**August 10, 2015**

The Ashfield Select Board meeting was held on Monday August 10, 2015 at the Ashfield Town Hall at 7:00 P.M. There were approximately 1 audience member in attendance. There were 2 audio recorders in use.

**Previous Select Board meeting was July 27, 2015**

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

**Town Administrator:** Derek Brindisi

**Assistant Municipal Clerk/Scribe:** Lynn Taylor, Scribe

**Meeting called to order by the Chair @ 7:02 P.M.**

**Agenda for 8/10/2015 (document 1)**

**Payroll Warrant WP16-04 dated August 10, 2015 (document 2)**

**Vendor Warrant W16-04 dated August 10, 2015 (document 3)**

**Minutes: Minutes of 7/27/2015 and 07/30/2015: MOTION:** Olanyk makes a motion to approve the minutes of 7/27/2015(**document 4**) and the minutes of 7/30/2015 (**document 5**) as written, seconded by Carter. **VOTE: 2-0-1 (RC)**

**Smith Branch Road update and payment authorization:** Bruce Hunter from HRA and Tom Poissant Highway Superintendent brief the Select Board on Smith Branch Road project and its progress. As of 8/3/2015 the project is 45 % complete, the construction started at 825 ft. mark and working back up the hill and as of today they are at about 400 ft. Hunter and Poissant assure that at this point the project is on schedule it started off slow due to a lot of rolling ledge they found and had to deal with, filling the pockets with cement anchored to the ledge for the gabion's to rest on. Hunter explains to the Board how the payments for the project work. (HRA requests grant funds from state on behalf of the Town, Town receives the funds, it is then put on a warrant for payment to HRA who the pays the contractors.) Hunter and Poissant will keep the Board apprised of the progress of

the project and be certain to contact Board immediately if there are any issues with the project. **MOTION:** Carter makes a motion to authorize the following disbursements #7 (**document 6**) in the amount of \$1,243.00, #8 (**document 7**) in the amount of \$1,280.00 for Tighe and Bond and Payment requisition #1 (**document 8**) in the amount of \$121,943.25, seconded by Coler. **VOTE: 3-0-0** Poissant will be going to look at the new truck tomorrow morning before it goes in for paint hopefully it will soon be in Town, and still looking for a street sweeper that is affordable.

**Informational briefing- Planning Board:** Michael Fitzgerald Planning Board chair has come to the Board requesting two by law amendments be put on a Special Town Meeting. 1. Update to the Telecommunications bylaw 2. Bylaw language for appointing an associate member. The Board advises Fitzgerald that the next special Town Meeting will most likely be in December or January and those amendments will be on that warrant. Fitzgerald would like the Board to appoint Megan Bowan who is going to be the Boards scribe going forward. After a brief discussion the Board decides that they do not need to appoint the scribe the Planning Board has a budget to work with and can hire a scribe if they desire. The Senior Housing Bylaw is going to be broken into two different articles.

**Informational briefing – Fire Department:** Del Haskins gives the Board an overview of how things are going in the Dept. Recently the ladders and fire hoses were certified, there was a lot of hoses that did not pass and one ladder that also could not be certified. The trucks and the pumps have also all been certified. The air packs will be certified next week. Waiting to hear any response from three grants that are in the works. There have been a lot of inspections being done for both new construction and sales of homes. There are about 20 FF on the roster only 10 of them are active FF's. there is a brief discussion regarding recruiting more members. Brindisi will look into recruiting practices for firefighters The radios still are huge safety concern we keep getting one excuse after another as to why the Plainfield tower that we committed so much money to is still not working for us. Haskins asks the Select Board for their help. Brindisi suggests drafting a strongly worded letter to have ready for the upcoming Aug 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Board agrees that is a great idea.

There is a brief discussion regarding an FRTA agreement that was sent to Haskins, and the SB dealing with evacuation. The Board takes no action with this until the radio situation is resolved. (**document 9**)

**Review and approve Special Town Meeting Warrant:** Board reviews the four articles on the Special Town Meeting Warrant for September 8, 2015 at 7:00 PM.

Board votes with their signatures on the Warrant. Four originals are signed. **(document 10)**

**Review and approve Special Election Warrant:** Board reviews the warrant for the Ballot question for the Special Election for September 10, 2015 from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM. Board signs four originals voting with their signatures. **(document 11)**

**Formula Grant Authorization: MOTION:** Olanyk makes a motion to sign FY2016 Formula Grant Allocation, seconded. **VOTE: 3-0-0 (document 12)**

### **Liaison Reports:**

Coler advises the lake dam project is “shovel ready” the final documents are done just waiting on the construction permit and he is now looking for grants. This is very time consuming taking lots of time and effort. He would like to be able to look for one two million dollar grant and include the retention wall at the Field. Coler read the Town Administrators job description and feels that reaching out to the Boards, Committees and employees explaining who Derek is and what his role is with the Town and his authority is, in time he will be the one doing reviews etc. Carter will put together something that can be sent to all the Boards, Committees and Employees.

Olanyk advises he has spoken with Poissant recently and he assured him that everything was on track and compliant with the DEP and Transfer Station issues. There is a brief discussion amongst Board members regarding the huge amounts of administration work that there is for the Highway Dept. and the Transfer Station not to say that Poissant is not doing a good job at all.

Carter wants to make sure that the next time there is a regular SB meeting we should discuss raising the appropriation amount Hawley pays to use the Transfer Station our increase this year was about 20%.

Coler questions if he missed anything regarding the Dodson Building when he was out. Ted Murray has been away so nothing new.

Board decides to meet August 24, 2015 at 6:30 PM before the hearing begins. Also a discussion about who should run the hearing.

Carter would like to get JJ Williams and Mike Skalski in to a meeting after the election to discuss the sidewalks for this upcoming winter.

### **Mail:**

Invoice from The Field Brindisi will look into this invoice tomorrow with the Accountant. **(document 13)**

Letter to Gail Abbott drafted by Brindisi Board signs **(document 14)**

Letter to sign regarding Brindisi’s FRTA appointment **(document 15)**

Carter questions Brindisi if he had heard from Jim Hawkins regarding Tammy Graves question pertaining to Fritz's garage in Baptist Corner. No Letter regarding an addition George BasBas would like to put on. He lives on Bug Hill Rd. (**document 16**)

**Public Comment:**

Betty Stewart expresses her concern to the Board of a large group of people from out of Town were out on the dam/spillway she spoke to them about not doing that and leaving. Very concerned about the liability the Town may have if someone gets hurt out there. She has spoken to the Park Commission before. Carter will talk to them and see about them putting up some signs to keep out.

**Next Select Board Meeting August 24, 2015**

**Coler makes a motion to adjourn, seconded**

**Adjourned at 9:32 PM**

**Document List**

1. Agenda for 8/10/2015
2. Payroll Warrant WP16-04 dated August 10, 2015
3. Vendor Warrant W16-04 dated August 10, 2015
4. Minutes of 7/27/2015
5. Minutes of 7/30/2015
6. Disbursement #7 in the amount of \$1,243.00
7. Disbursement #8 in the amount of \$1,280.00
8. Payment requisition #1 in the amount of \$121,943.25
9. FRTA agreement
10. Special Town Meeting Warrant
11. Special Election Warrant
12. Formula Grant Authorization
13. Invoice from The Field
14. Letter to Gail Abbott
15. Letter to sign regarding Brindisi's FRTA appointment
16. Letter regarding an addition George BasBas
- 17.

