

*Approved as amended 3-0-0*

***Town of Ashfield***

***Select Board Meeting Minutes***

***October 19, 2015***

The Ashfield Select Board meeting was held on Monday October 19, 2015 at the Ashfield Town Hall at 7:00 P.M. There were approximately 10 audience members in attendance. There was 1 audio recorder in use.

Previous Select Board Meeting was October 14, 2015

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

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

**Town Administrator:** Derek Brindisi

**Finance Committee:** Ted Murray

Meeting was called to order by chair @ 7:03 PM

**Warrants:**

Payroll Warrant WP16-09 dated October 19, 2015 (**document 2**)

Vendor Warrant W16-09 dated October 19, 2015 (**document 3**)

(Warrants were reviewed and signed prior to the opening of the meeting)

**Minutes:**

**MOTION:** Olanyk makes a motion to accept the minutes of 10/05/2015 as written, seconded by Carter. Discussion: Coler makes an edit to the liaison report section.

**VOTE 3-0-0**

**Discussion: Enterprise vs. Regional Broadband Network approaches:** David Kulp gives a quick recap of last week's meeting with MBI. Tonight kulp is looking for the Board to make and vote on a decision as to proceed with the Regional approach(wired West or independently on own Town owned) or the Enterprise approach(Matrix/Axia not Town owned)Ted Murray Finace Committee Chair advises he understands the Regional approach and it makes sense, however the Matrix design group appeal is saving money and perhaps we should look into that approach as well. Kulp explains that if we use that approach it's a long term

contract, we do not own the infrastructure, will only get half of the allocated State funds, and we will receive no guidance from MBI. Olanyk is very worried about giving up the control the Town would have with the Enterprise approach. Coler feels we should go in the direction of the Regional Approach tonight and expedite the process. As soon as we have agreed with the Regional approach MBI can start getting the project made ready using the State funds. Olanyk appreciates Murray's advice regarding Enterprise approach, however giving up Town control with a twenty year contract is unacceptable in his eyes. **MOTION:** Carter makes a motion move forward with the Regional approach of research and design VS the Enterprise approach, seconded by Coler. **VOTE: 3-0-0**

**MOTION:** Olanyk makes a motion to send a letter to MBI with the Boards decision and we would appreciate there expertice in moving forward with the regional approach, seconded by Coler. **VOTE: 3-0-0**

Kulp will work with the Town Admin. to draft this letter

#### **Discussion: Remaining items from the Division of Local Services Audit**

**Report-2014:** Murray's thoughts are the Boards should be looking into wage/salary section and Financial Controls section of the DLS report. Maybe there is a need for more administrative staffing to get and keep the Town moving forward.

**Discussion: Draft Independent Audit Report:** Very brief discussion regarding the audit that was done by Clarke and Roselli Auditors, both the SB and the Finance Committee saw nothing that stood out as an issue in the draft. OPEB liabilities is still an item that is still not completely clear. There is no objection to the management letter. Boards will sign and send back to Roselli & Clarke.

#### **Chapter 427—Financing Alternative:**

Carter reads the letter to Rep. Peter Kocot into the record. **(document 4)**

Asking to amend chapter 427 which would allow the Towns to finance the last fiber mile with one year notes. Board decides to express their vote by signing.

#### **Resignations of Derek Brindisi as Town Administrator and Ricki Carroll as Finance Committee Member:**

Carter has had a lengthy discussion prior to the meeting with Brindisi and he has agreed to stay on as Town Administrator until October 30, 2015. Carter informed Brindisi how much he appreciated him working for the Town and wishes Brindisi all the best in Plymouth.

**MOTION:** Coler makes a motion to accept with regret the resignations of Derek Brindisi as Town Administrator and Ricki Carroll as Finance Committee Member, Seconded by Carter. **VOTE: 3-0-0**

Ted Murray advises that he has been in contact with Buz as the Moderator will be appointing someone to fill Carroll's two year term. If the SB has any ideas for a replacement Murray would like to hear about them. The SB has a discussion as how to proceed with finding a replacement for Brindisi. Carter advises he had spoken with former search Committee members and 4 out of the 5 would be interested in being reappointed if the Board wanted to move in that direction for finding someone. Carter is also concerned with the timing, the thought was if someone stepped forward the Board may be open to accepting an Interim Administrator. Carter recommends that Lynn Taylor be appointed to the Admin. portion of the Town Administrator job, working with the Chair to draft and post SB agendas going forward until an Administrator is hired. With this position and added time and responsibility Carter suggest a stipend of \$150.00 per week. Coler wants to be sure that you can pay a stipend to an hourly wage employee. Olanyk had no issue. Coler feels that out of curtesy Ann should be contacted with this change. **MOTION:** Carter makes a motion to appoint Lynn Taylor to perform the Admin. Function of working with the SB Chair to draft and post the Select Board agendas, drawing a \$150.00 stipend per week from the Town Administrator line, seconded by Coler. **VOTE: 3-0-0**

Coler advises he has been contacted by David Newell he would like to also have Lynn Taylor appointed to the VEAC Committee in Brindisi's place as Ashfield's Alternate Representative. Taylor would like the SB to speak with Town Clerk before any appointment takes place.

Todd Olanyk will perform Brindisi's exit interview. Coler would like to have a coffee with Brindisi.

Emily Robertson is at the meeting requesting that she and the Superintendent to get on the SB agenda to discuss the upcoming budget. Robertson hands out this years' School Committee calendar (**document 5**) she encourage the Board members to attend the budget meetings. A tentative date of November 17<sup>th</sup> was set to meet regarding the school budget.

### **Liaison Reports:**

Olanyk advices that on October 28<sup>th</sup> MCAP will be holding a meeting at 104 Main St the Northfield Elementary School, Kinder Morgan will also be set up in the Gym of the school with information as well.

Murray questions if the pipeline company will have to pay any tax to the Towns if it comes through their Towns. He is advised to contact Amy Shapiro from the Assessors Office she may have the answer to that.

Olanyk would like a discussion of the corrective analysis issue regarding the Transfer Station be added to the Agenda. Brindisi and Poissant are setting up a conference call next week with the State regarding the Transfer Station issues.

### **Not anticipated items:**

Town Hall use application from Elmer's Store (**document 6**) Nan is looking to hold a childrens dance on October 31, 2015 following the rag shag parade from 9-11 PM in Lower Hall. **MOTION:** Olanyk makes a motion to approve the Town Hall use Application for Elmer's Store on October 31, seconded by Coler. **VOTE: 3-0-0**

Wayne Wickland is present he has found someone who is wanting to be appointed to the Council on Aging and Wickland is requesting the appointment be put on the November 2<sup>nd</sup> agenda. Board agrees to do so.

Olanyk will not be at the November 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Brindisi via Chief Wilder is asking that the Board reconsider allowing her to purchase the Admin. software package for her department she feels it will be very helpful to them. Board agrees to have the issue put on the November 2<sup>nd</sup> Agenda for discussion.

Brindisi has also received information from the Fire Chief that Engine 3 is having a charging problem he has someone coming to look at the engine.

Brindisi has contacted Kim Levitch to do the appraisal on the Dodson Building waiting to hear back from Levitch.

Next Select Board Meeting will be November 2, 2015

Olanyk makes a motion to adjourn, seconded by Coler. VOTE: 3-0-0

Adjourned at 9:40 PM

### **Document List**

- 1. Agenda for 10/19/2015**
- 2. Payroll Warrant WP16-09 dated October 19, 2015**
- 3. Vendor Warrant W16-09 dated October 19, 2015**
- 4. Letter to Rep. Peter Kocot regarding Chapter 427**

5. School Committee calendar
6. Town Hall use application from Elmer's Store.