

Town of Ashfield Select Board

Meeting Minutes

May 20, 2013

The Select Board meeting was held on Monday May 20, 2013 at the Ashfield Town Hall. The meeting was called to order by Tom Carter-Chair at 7:00 P.M. There were 5 audio and 1 video recorders in use. Approximately 5 audience members were in attendance.

Select Board: Tom Carter-Chair, Paullette Leukhardt, Ron Coler

Executive Administrator: Mary Fitz-Gibbon

Scribe: Assistant Municipal Clerk Lynn Taylor

Board reviews and signs Warrants: Vendor Warrant W 13-24 dated May 22, 2013(document 1)

Payroll Warrant WP13-24 dated May 22, 2013(document 2)

Point of information: Coler expressed to the Board that he was not feeling well this evening and if we could try to wrap up the meeting by around 9:00 P.M. and if that was not possible Coler would excuse himself around 9:00 P.M.

Coler distributes a letter he drafted answering Leukhardt's question from last week's meeting, regarding what he was talking to Town Counsel about regarding the Ashfield House. On the said date in question his conversation with Town Counsel was separated from the Ashfield House Item by a semicolon, one item having nothing to do with the other. (document 3)

MINUTES:

Minutes of 2/25/2013 Leukhardt states that the minutes of 2/25/2013 have already been approved by the Board on 3/18/2013. Taylor stated the minutes are not in the Select Board Minutes Book. (Document4)

Minutes of 4/17/2013 MOTION: Coler makes a motion to accept the minutes of 4/17/2013, seconded by Carter. DISCUSSION: Leukhardt expresses that the minutes are very short, each week they seem to get a little shorter. Coler and Carter feel there is enough information in these minutes seeing it was a joint budget meeting with the Finance Committee. (Document 5) VOTE: Carter-aye, Coler-aye, Leukhardt-no. 2-1-0

Minutes of 5/13/2013 MOTION: Coler makes a motion to accept the minutes of 5/13/2013 as amended, seconded by Carter. VOTE: Carter-aye, Coler-aye, Leukhardt-aye. 3-0-0(Document 6)

APPOINTMENTS:

Doug Field EMD is present to inform the Board that the new 7500 Watt generator from the MEMA grant has been installed by Poissant Electric. The Fire House is fully powered by the generator and parts of the Town Hall also are powered. The Town Clerk's Office, Collector's Office, Assessor's Office and a few outlets are powered as well. This grant is a 100% reimbursement from MEMA. Field will pay for this out of his line item. He will have to deficit spend Fitz-Gibbon; spoke with the Accountant regarding this, the Accountant said this would be fine. Carter expresses his concerns on this matter.

Brendan Burns, Green River Ambrosia, LLC: Burns is present to express his plans to the Board regarding selling wines/meads at the Farmers Market.(Document 7)

MOTION: Carter makes a motion to grant Green River Ambrosia, LLC a license to sell wine at the Ashfield Farmers Market on the Town Common from May 2013 thru October 2013, Seconded by Coler.

VOTE: Carter-aye, Leukhardt-aye, Coler-aye. 3-0-0

David Newell and Poppy Doyle have a lengthy discussion with the Board regarding Vocational School transportation and tuition. Would like to establish a committee to oversee these issues and to work with the 4 non-member Towns on these issues. Carter would like to see a letter of intent from these other Towns that they are willing to work with us. The decision is made for Doyle and Newell to draft a charge, try to find a third member to work with and come back to the Board.

NEW BUSINESS:

Open Meeting Law Complaints: The Board has received two more OML Violation complaints one from Suzanne Corbett dated May 14, 2013(Document 8) and one from Deborah Nicholson dated May 15, 2013 (Document 9) A lengthy discussion takes place regarding how to deal with these new violations. Leukhardt would like to amend the already approved minutes to solve the issues with the complaints. Carter and Coler feel it's a bad idea to go back and amend already approved minutes. Carter and Coler would like to forward these two violations to Town Counsel and have her respond on our behalf.

Ann Dunne discussed with the Board the need to get caught up on OML violations and document requests. An option is to close the Town Hall to the public for the four days after Memorial Day 5/28/2013 thru 5/31/2013 to get everything caught up.

Carter makes a motion to direct the two OML Violations to Town Counsel, ask for her response on the Board's behalf, and to close Town Hall for the 4 days after Memorial Day to get caught up on OML violations and Public Document Requests, seconded by Coler. Discussion: Leukhardt states she would like to separate the motion and she still feels the minutes in question are not accurate. VOTE: Carter-aye, Leukhardt-no, Coler-aye. 2-1-0

It was brought to the Board's attention by Leukhardt that Kachina Yuryan's letter was supposed to be part of the document list for Select Board meeting of April 8, 2013 however it was not part of the document list. The Board overlooked that when all three Board members approved them. Kachina Yuryan's letter will be included in this meeting's document list. (Document 10)

NEW BUSINESS:

State Election Warrant for June 25, 2013 from the Town Clerk needs to be signed. All three members sign the Warrant.

After attending the OML Seminar put on by the Attorney General's Office it was decided that the Board should not meet on a Saturday morning to view the problems at the Dam and the retention wall to avoid any issues. Carter asked Doug Field, EMD for Ashfield, if he would be willing to take each board member around separately to view these sights. Doug agrees.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Leukhardt gives each Board member a copy of draft Job descriptions to review and markup from the Personnel Board. Leukhardt spoke with the Police Chief last week she handed out a memo regarding her detail points of discussion (Document 11) will discuss this meeting next week.

Carter has spoken with Tom Poissant regarding the position at the Highway Department. Tom offered the job to the applicant he and Alan Taylor picked. That person has turned down the position. Tom would now like the Boards permission to hire Luke Pantermehl to fill the highway position job.

MOTION: Carter makes a motion to allow Poissant to offer the fulltime highway position to Luke Pantermehl, seconded by Leukhardt. VOTE: Carter-aye, Leukhardt-aye, Coler-aye. 3-0-0

Carter makes a motion to adjourn, Seconded by Leukhardt. Carter-aye, Leukhardt-aye, Coler-aye 3-0-0

Adjourned at 9:20 P.M.

DOCUMENT LIST

1. Vendor Warrant W13-24 May 20, 2013
2. Payroll Warrant WP13-24 May 22, 2013
3. Letter from Ron Coler
4. Minutes of 2/25/2013
5. Minutes of 4/17/2013
6. Minutes of 5/13/2013
7. Special Liquor License for Green River Ambrosia, LLC
8. OML Complaint from Suzanne Corbett
9. OML Complaint from Deborah Nicholson
10. Letter from Kachina Yuryan dated April 5, 2013
11. Detail points of discussion with Police Chief(memo from Leukhardt)

NOTE: These draft minutes were discussed, amended, and approved at the Select Board meeting dated 6/03/2013 and filed in the folder of actual date of said minutes.

