

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

**August 25, 2014**

The Ashfield Select Board meeting was held on Monday August 25, 2014 at the Ashfield Town Hall at 7:00 P.M. There were approximately 6 audience members in attendance. There were 4 audio recorders in use and 1 video.

**Previous Select Board meeting was August 11, 2014.**

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

**Executive Administrator:** Mary Fitz-Gibbon

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

Meeting was called to order by Tom Carter Chair at 7:00 P.M.

Agenda for 8/25/2014 (**document 1**)

**Payroll Warrant WP15-05      dated August 25, 2014 (document 2)**

**Vendor Warrant W15-05      dated August 25, 2014 (document 3)**

Warrants were signed individually prior to the start of the meeting.

**Minutes:**

August 11, 2015: **MOTION:** Olanyk makes a motion to accept the minutes of 8/11/2014 as amended, seconded by Coler. **VOTE: 2-0-1 (TC) (document 4)**

Coler gives Carter an overview of a discussion at Select Board Meeting August 11, 2014 regarding Buckland, Colrain & Shelburne letters drafted by their Select Boards asking that the monies be returned to the Towns. And as to why the Select Board decided not to draft one.

**New Business:**

- A. Senior Center long range planning: moved to next meeting September 8, 2014
- B. Town Hall use Application for Ashfield Fall Festival October 11 & 12 from 8AM-6 PM. **MOTION:** Coler makes a motion to authorize the Chair to sign the Town Hall use application for the Ashfield Fall Festival Committee on October 11 & 12, seconded by Carter. **VOTE: 2-0-1 (TO)(document 5)**

- C. Special Town meeting Warrant: discussion of articles and their wording for preparation of the Warrant for September 22, 2014 Special Town Meeting. There will be 5 articles on the warrant. **(document 6)**
- D. Ashfield Wastewater Treatment Plant Budget discussion: Carter explains to the Board that the Treasurer advised him that the Town employees of the AWWTP are seeking a 3% raise rather than the 2% the rest of the Town Employees received. Treasurer would like clarification from the Board as to a 3% or 2% raise for those employees. After a short discussion, the Board agrees that the Sewer Commissioners prepared the budget including a 3% raise and that budget passed on the Town floor at annual Town Meeting. **MOTION:** Carter makes a motion to direct the Treasurer to pay the 3% raise to the AWWTP workers as directed by the Sewer Commissioners and passed by the Select Board, Finance Committee, and Annual Town meeting, seconded by Coler. **VOTE:** 3-0-0
- E. Ashfield lake invasive species issue: Gail Abbott is present and explains to the Board of findings of Fanwort a very invasive plant species. It has been identified by Aquatic control Technology in a few spots in the lake. It is explained that this plant once broken or disturbed will spread extremely fast, and will need to be taken care of by professionals. A group of residents have been pulling and taking care of another invasive species called Asian water chestnut in the lake the feeling is that that plant is under control. Carter asks Abbott if she would be willing to take the lead and work with Mary Fitz-Gibbon on starting this project, Abbott agrees she will be willing to make some calls and get some figures for the Board. Carter will do some research on different accounts that may be able to fund this project. The Board decides to put an article on the STM Warrant to transfer money from Vocational School expense to an account for the purpose of removing the invasive plant from the lake.

### **Old Business:**

- A. Town Counsel letter to Tennessee Gas pipeline or Town Counsel determination that no response is appropriate: As of now, it is thought that Ashfield cannot restrict TGP from surveying on the public byways.
- B. Hill town networks proposal to provide wireless internet service and use of the Town Hall steeple: Brian Clark, Juliet Jacobson, Andy Smith, and Tom Henry from the Tech Committee submit a letter to the Board regarding the negotiations with Hill town networks **(document 7)** and also their version of

wording if decided to put on the Warrant for STM. (**document 8**) The Tech Committee discusses with the SB their thoughts as to how important this contract for high-speed internet is, they feel if we wait much longer to make a decision Chris Gray may say that it is too late to make it feasible for him to warrant doing the service. David King, Chris Farley, Carol Groman, and Sheila Dennis spoke to the need to make the decision to allow Chris Gray to do the wireless internet using the Town Hall Steeple. Paullette Leukhardt spoke to the contract with Hill town networks and the need for it to be more beneficial to the Town. Personally, Carter and Olanyk say they are in favor of proposed internet service but that it should be a decision for the Town residents to make. After the discussion the SB feels that this is something that should be put on the STM Warrant for this September and let the residents decide.

Liaison Reports: none

Public Comment: none

Next Select Board meeting will be Monday September 8, 2014

Document List:

1. Agenda for 8/25/2014
2. Vendor Warrant W15-05 dated August 25, 2014
3. Vendor Warrant WP15-05 dated August 25, 2014
4. Minutes of August 11, 2015
5. Town Hall use Application for Ashfield Fall Festival October 11 & 12
6. Warrant for September 22, 2014 Special Town Meeting
7. Tech Committee submit a letter to the Board regarding the negotiations with Hill town networks
8. Tech Committees version of wording if decided to put on the Warrant for STM.
- 9.

Note: These minutes were discussed, amended, and approved at the Select Board meeting dated 9/9/2014 and filed in the folder of the actual date of the said minutes

