

Town of Ashfield
Select Board Minutes

October 20, 2014

The Ashfield Select Board meeting was held on Tuesday October 20, 2014 at the Ashfield Town Hall at 7:00 P.M. There were approximately 9 audience members in attendance. There were 6 audio recorders in use.

Previous Select Board meeting was October 7, 2014.

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

Executive Administrator: Mary Fitz-Gibbon

Assistant Municipal Clerk/Scribe: Lynn Taylor (absent)

Agenda for 10/20/2014 (document 1)

Payroll Warrant WP15-09 dated October 20, 2014 (document 2)

Vendor Warrant W15-09 dated October 20, 2014 (document 3)

Minutes: October 7, 2014 & February 26, 2014 postponed to 10/22/2014 meeting. Carter informs the Board that he was in on 10/16/2014 spent 2 hrs. Reviewing video of the 2/26/2014 SB meeting minutes should be ready for approval at 10/22/2014 meeting. Coler and Olanyk have both watched the minutes video as recommended by the AG'S office, Carter still will need to watch.

Appointments:

- a. Del Haskins, Ashfield Fire Chief:
 - 155 calls as of today (32 calls higher than last yr.), 43 permits (many people switching to propane.
 - Department has received the SAFE grant again this Yr.
 - All who go to the Academy have to have gear >10 Yrs. old, Haskins is going to try and apply for a matching grant.
 - In the past Department has been using State Codes will now be using a National Codes.
 - There are still huge communication issues not sure what is holding up the Plainfield tower.

- Fire Trucks: 1 is 24 Yrs. old, other is 19 Yrs., and the pumper has been out of service for 2 months waiting for valve parts, which are leaking. Carter questions if it was due to inspection a few months back. Will be spending \$1700.00 on hose lengths. Budget seems to be right on track at 30-32% after this Warrant looks to be about \$30,000.00 in FD expenses.
- Haskins has been given a Dodge Durango from the state free of charge to use as a Fire Department vehicle. Board is concerned with the miles on the vehicle and the cost of maintaining it. Carter wishes Haskins had kept track of the mileage then the Board would be in a better position to know if it would be worth having. David Newell responds saying it will increase the fleet and insurance and operating costs if we allow another vehicle. Haskins adds the Brush truck was free and the Department has gotten a lot of use out of that. MOTION: Carter makes a motion to authorize Chief Haskins to keep a log of mileage and submit for reimbursement, seconded. VOTE 3-0-0 Brian Clark reminds the Board that you adopted Green Communities Vehicle Policy, which means you can only accept, buy or receives a vehicle that meets Green standards.

(Approx. 45 min.)

- b. Nancy Hoff, Ashfield Community Preschool issues: reminds the Board that historically the preschool has asked and received money from the Town, this has not happened since 2008. This year the preschool did not receive the grant from the State (\$10,000.00). So again we are asking the board for \$5000.00 which we would you to fund the Staff as we had used the State grant in the past. Hoff informs the Board that their shortfall was likely to be around \$10-\$15,000.00, the Fall Festival brought in around \$5,000.00 this year. There is discussion as to the legality of using Town Funds for a private preschool Coler explains he recently attended a FRCOG workshop, perhaps we need legal advice. David Newell would like to see the Town vote for a way preschool could be free like Colrain and Heath. Ted Murray Chair of the Fin Com. Understands the concerns Hoff has, however at this time the district has far more capacity in our schools than needed. Fitz-Gibbon will pull together information on the Town Trusts and contact Terry at the DOR for a determination.(approx.1HR)
- c. Cindy Carney, Belding Library Blood Drive: Carney gives the Board an overview of a Blood Drive that is planned for Dec. 6, 2014 at the Belding

Library from 10:00-3:00, Carney is not looking for any money only the support of the SB. Citizens should make appointments with Martha at the Library, however we will also take walk ins. Carter suggested advertising at the Flue Clinic which is being held at Sanderson on November 1, 2014 from 12:00-2:00.

- d. Jen Markens, Town response to Tennessee Gas Pipeline Federal Energy Commission (FERC) pre-filing: postponed.

Old Business:

- a. Open meeting law determination, revise and amend 2/26/2014 minutes: postponed to 10/22/2014
- b. Hilltown Networks Contract: (**document 4**) the contract is reviewed item by item. Section 1. The word final was deleted from the last sentence of Section 1 All installations presented will be to the Town Hall Building Committee and the Historical Commission for approval; final is struck because there may be approved installation changes over time. Sect. 4 Payment agreement for a two yr. term with allowances for four 2Yr. extensions. 5. Non-interference by Hilltown Networks. HN shall have up to 48Hrs. after notification to correct and interference with Town communication, should any occur. Further discussion between SB and HN included establish agreement on the bond or security requirements, the equipment removal timeline, and protocol for both parties should the Town Hall Steeple need repair of maintenance. All parties having agreed on all the terms the contract will be forwarded to Town Council for preparation of the final signing contract. (Approx. 1Hr.)
- c. Ashfield House LLC lien: postponed

New Business:

- a. Winter sidewalks snow removal: Carter makes a motion to establish Village Sidewalk Winter Maintenance Fund to accept donations to be expanded by the SB in conjunction with other funds to provide winter access in the Village via sidewalks, seconded by Coler. Discussion start at the West side of the street to the Fire House use crosswalk and continue on the East side of

Congo. Church and then to Verizon Building on the North side of Main Street. Should include shoveling and sanding, contractors will bill for their hours if someone shovels first it should cost the Town less. Olanyk is fine with this, however his long term thoughts would be the Highway and Equipment. Board would like to get together to discuss with contractors.

VOTE: 3-0-0 (Approx. 20 min)

- b. Executive Administrator vs Town Administrator discussion: moved to 11/3/2014 SB meeting.
- c. Central Franklin County District Veteran's Services merger request: Wayne Farrell was present to discuss this issue of the proposed merger. Department of Veteran Services letter recommending the Merger with Upper Pioneer Valley Services District. (Document 11 &12)

Liaison Reports: Carter informs Board that the Highway rapid recovery has been signed. Coler informs the Board that deed with Scott and The Town of Ashfield has been recorded.

Mail:

-Letter from Kinder Morgan about open house dates and locations. **(document 5)**

-Resignation letter from Officer Gregory Dekoschak. **(Document 6)**

-Letter from AG'S Office Dated October 10, 2014 to Paullette Leukhardt regarding he September 8, 2014 Complaint. **(Document 7)**

-DEP Sustainable Materials Recovery Program Grant the Town will receive up to \$500.00. **(Document 8)**

-Letter from Secretary of State to Suzanne Corbett dated October 15, 2014 regarding an appeal Corbett had made. **(Document 9)**

-Letter from Town of Charlemont regarding FY 16 budget and SB'S meeting with MTRSD. **(Document 10)**

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Public Comment:

Betty Stewart informs the Board there was an issue with the elevator not working.

Motion to adjourn, seconded.

Meeting Adjourned @10:40 P.M.

Document List

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2. Payroll Warrant WP15-09 dated October 20, 2014
3. Vendor Warrant W15-09 dated October 20, 2014
4. Hilltown Networks Contract
5. Letter from Kinder Morgan about open house dates and locations.
6. Resignation letter from Officer Gregory Dekoschak.
7. Letter from AG'S Office Dated October 10, 2014 to Paullette Leukhardt regarding he September 8, 2014 Complaint.
8. DEP Sustainable Materials Recovery Program Grant the Town will receive up to \$500.00.
9. Letter from Secretary of State to Suzanne Corbett dated October 15, 2014 regarding an appeal Corbett had made.
10. Letter from Town of Charlemont regarding FY 16 budget and SB'S meeting with MTRSD.
11. Veteran Services letter recommending the Merger with Upper Pioneer Valley Services District.
12. Letter from Upper Pioneer Valley Services District.
- 13.

Approved as amended 3-0-0

Note: These minutes were discussed, amended, and approved at the Select Board meeting dated 11/3/2014 and filed in the folder of the actual date of the said minutes