

New Ashford Select Board Meeting
July 27, 2015

Select Board present: Jason Jayko (chair), Ken McInerney, Mark Phelps
Others present: Chuck Morrone, Keith LaCasse, Wayne Buckley, Lori Jayko

Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Trees – Chuck Morrone, tree warden. Chuck toured the town to determine what trees should be taken down. He also consulted with Keith LaCasse about reducing the canopy. The board would like the branches from the canopy to be chipped. Lots of trees on Beach Hill Road that have been cut are still sitting by the side of the road. Two dead trees on Mallery will be removed by Eversource. Chuck will contact Eversource about a couple of trees on Greylock Road. Keith will cut the trees crossing Bauer Road.

2. Fire Chief – Wayne Buckley, updates. The Jaws of Life deal fell through; however, he is still working on acquiring a set for the town. The fire department will discuss getting a second phone line at the station to use as a dedicated fax line. Bruce Augusti, Local Coordinator for MEMA, would like to meet with Max LaCasse and the select board to discuss MEMA grants.

3. Road Commissioner – Keith LaCasse. Keith received a notice from Dalton about the price of the mower going up. The board is aware of the increase. Keith brought paperwork that the board signed for Chapter 90 for work on Mallery Road, \$117,600 estimate. Keith will arrange to get Michelle Callahan's signature. He is waiting for the mower, and hoping to get the grader this week to use on Ingraham, Greylock, and Bauer roads. That grader is too big for Roys Road which he will get a smaller grader for. He will also get a sweeper to clean the roads off before grading, including a spot on Smith Road.

4. Snow Plowing Contract – The contract has been amended with changes made at the last meeting. The contract was reviewed and amended again – distances will be added, measured by Keith. Jason will send the amended contract to legal counsel ASAP so the bid process can move forward in a timely manner. It will be advertised in the newspaper for two weeks. The pdf will be on the website. The goal is to open bids at the September 8th meeting and award the contract at the September 21st meeting.

5. Public Comment and Other Items for Consideration – Jason attended a Wired West meeting which mostly focused on television services. Also, residents from many towns were complaining that Verizon is no longer setting up houses with DSL when people move. The Wired West grant was not discussed.

Jason received an email from Sharon Ferry. She, Erik Nakajima, and Christine Hatch from MBI (Mass Broadband Institute) would like to be at the October 5th select board meeting. Ken received a phone call from Elizabeth Copeland from MBI – about the application for the planning grant. Wired West was supposed to fill out the grant paperwork. The first grant will be rejected and refilled out by Wired West. The next Wired West meeting is August 8.

Chuck Morrone would like a copy of the cemetery rules. He will check with the town clerk to see if she has a copy. Winn Frye may have the rules. The cemetery commission would like to review the rules. The cemetery commission mowed last week and would like some guidance on how to split the bill. Ken will discuss this with Pete Haig and get back to Chuck.

Chuck noted that the town website needs to be updated with current meeting dates and minutes. The plexi-glass case where the meetings are posted is cloudy and needs to be replaced. The handicap ramp at the town hall needs to be sealed.

Mail was reviewed. Boiler survey will be filled out.

6. Sign Warrant – Warrant was reviewed and signed.

7. Approve Select Board minutes for July 6, 2015 – On a motion made by Ken, seconded by Mark, the minutes were approved.

Next meeting date: Monday, August 3

Meeting adjourned at 8:15