

New Ashford Select Board Meeting  
December 19, 2016

Board Present: Jason Jayko (chair), Mark Phelps  
Absent: Ken McInerney

Others Present: Keith LaCasse, Brian Fairbank, Lori Jayko, Brenda Frye

Meeting opened at 6:30

1. Berkshire County Education Task Force – Brian Fairbank. The task force has met for the past 16 months to explore the challenges facing education in the area. The group hired the Donahue Institute which found that enrollment has declined 22% in the past 15 years and the cost to run schools is going up. This has resulted in programs at schools being reduced. Currently the task force has put a phase two study out to bid to look at different educational models, financial models, logistical/organizational issues, regulatory issues, and political/social considerations. The task force has been visiting towns to share its information and Brian provided the board with a handout describing the work in further detail. He encouraged the board to share suggestions and questions.

2. Road Commissioner: Keith LaCasse replaced a block that had been moved on Ingraham Road. A four-wheeler was in the cemetery. A complaint of slippery roads during the storm was called in, but Keith was already out salting and tending to the roads. The bus is still turning around in the Frye's driveway. The driver will be asked to turn around at Rancourt's instead. Keith refilled the sand. He recommends that the board consider putting up an 8 X 8 shed for the sand so it won't get washed away or frozen.

3. Greylock Road – tabled until the next meeting.

4. Community Choice Aggregation – tabled until the next meeting.

5. Town Hall Public Access – waiting to hear back from town counsel.

6. MBI/WW – there is a meeting Wednesday in Northampton. Ken will attend.

Public Comment –

Keith reported that Max LaCasse, Emergency Management Director, will fill out emergency management grant paperwork and bring it to the next meeting.

Warrant was reviewed and signed.

On a motion by Mark, seconded by Jason, the minutes from December 5, 2016 were approved.

Next Meeting January 9, 2017 at 6:30

Meeting adjourned at 7:30