

Town of Ashford

Established 1714

REGULAR SELECTMEN'S MEETING MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2016, 7:00 P.M. ASHFORD TOWN OFFICES MINUTES

1. Call to order at 7:00 pm
2. Members present: Zambo, Fletcher. Falletti was excused
Guests: Linda Gagne, Richard Williams, Ray Fenn, Bill Darcy, Don Neel, Jim Longo, Cathryn Silver-Smith
3. Hear from the public
4. First Selectman's Briefing
 - Zambo reported that the 5310 grant senior bus has been ordered and that we can expect delivery during late summer/early fall
 - Zambo reported that the bus obtained from WRTD has passed inspection, has been registered, and considered to be in service.
5. Hear from Boards, Commissions, Committees:
 - Linda Gagne reported that she attended the annual Tax Collector's conference last week and related information regarding pending tax collection legislation
 - Cathryn Silver-Smith commented on the establishment of a School Facilities Committee and suggested the appointment of Susan Eastwood to that Committee.
 - Jim Longo, Ashford School Superintendent, assured the Selectmen that keeping the school building and property well maintained is of the highest priority as the school represents the largest town owned asset. There was some discussion relating to school improvement funding sources and an conceptual design relating proposed use of tech ed space
6. Fletcher moved acceptance of minutes of Regular Meeting of 3/7/2016. Zambo seconded the motion which passed.
7. Old Business
 - a. 300th Anniversary Committee report
 - b. Policies and Procedures Manual: Zambo reported that he is still trying to make contact with Maureen Barber regarding the status of the Policy and Procedures Manual.
 - c. Cadlerock Property/DEEP: Messrs Williams, Fenn and Darcy, representing the Economic Development Commission, appeared before the Board of Selectmen to discuss recommendations received from Town Counsel relating to DEEP's consent order and proposed meeting with DEEP. Mr. Darcy presented the Board with a letter describing previously conducted Cadlerock/Wagonshed property environmental studies and his assessment that additional studies are not needed. Mr. Williams presented the Selectmen with a copy of the EPA After Action Report. Zambo stated that the Selectmen appreciate the effort that Mr. Darcy and the EDC have put into this investigation and they, the BOS, are working on moving ahead on meeting with the DEEP. Zambo stressed that the Board of

Selectmen make a concerted effort to protect Ashford's residents especially relating to allocation and use of Town funds and approach the possible uses of the Cadlerock/Wagon Shed property with this in mind. Mr. Fenn reminded the Selectmen that the Economic Development Commission has a responsibility to advise the Board of Selectmen of projects that think would benefit the town.

- d. Fletcher moved ratification of Small Cities Program Income Reuse Plan, Ashford Fair Housing Action Plan, Certified Resolution relating to 2016 Small cities Food Bank application. Zambo seconded the motion which passed.
8. Fletcher moved acceptance of proposal for providing application preparation and program administration relating to the 2016 Small Cities Grant
 9. New Business
 - a. Report of Financial System Committee: Don Neel reported that he, Cheryl Baker and members of the school's finance office visited the finance department of the Town of Woodstock to view the accounting system that they are using. The committee plans to visit other towns to view their systems and will report back to the Board of Selectmen.
 - b. Fletcher moved adoption of the following resolution: That Michael J. Zambo, First Selectman, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this municipality a contract with the Connecticut State Library for an Historic Documents Preservation Grant. Zambo seconded the motion which passed.
 - c. Committee/Commission appointments
 - o Board of Assessment Appeals – fill alternate vacancy
 - o Conservation Commission - fill vacancy (to 11/2017) (Eric Parent)
 - o Recreation Commission: Fletcher moved the reappoint Sandy Moquin as Regular Member to 3/31/2021. Zambo seconded the motion which passed. It was noted that Tom Paul does not wish to be reappointed as an Alternate. This leaves a vacant seat expiring 3/31/2019.
 - o Agriculture Commission: Fletcher moved the reappointments of Talmadge, S. Simpson, Sibiga, Pfalzgraf to the Agriculture Commission for 3-year terms which will expire 3/15/2019. Zambo seconded the motion which passed.
 - d. Fletcher moved the following tax refund citing CGS 12-129: Linda H. Gardner in the amount of \$6.43. Zambo seconded the motion which passed.
 - e. Fletcher moved the formation of a School Facilities Committee comprised of Mike Zambo, Ralph Fletcher, Joe Kalinowski, Wayne Fletcher, Chuck Funk, Don Neel, Jim Rupert and Susan Eastwood whose responsibility would be to evaluate Ashford School construction and renovation projects. Zambo seconded the motion which passed.
 - f. Following review of and discussion regarding an offer to sell property located at 199 Nott Highway in the Town of Ashford currently owned by Gary C. Zelonka, Fletcher thanked Mr. Zelonka for considering the Town in this regard and moved that, at this time, the Board of Selectmen must decline Mr. Zelonka's offer. Zambo seconded the motion which passed.
 - g. Ratification of letter of commitment for Eversource Municipal Bench Marking Technical Assistance Program. Ms. Eastwood will be asked to attend the April 4th Selectmen's Meeting to clarify the focus of this program as it related to the town of Ashford.

- h. 2016-2017 budget: Zambo noted that the Region 19 requested budget appropriation will be less than that initially presented.
 - i. Fletcher moved addition to the agenda of a motion relating to a reduction in the 2016-2017 general government budget. Zambo seconded the motion which passed. Fletcher moved that the Assessor's budget line item "Personal Property audit" (110-14000-53422-000) be reduced by \$2,500 to \$0. Zambo seconded the motion which passed.
10. Remarks for the good.....
11. Adjournment at 7:43 p.m.