

Town of Ashford

Established 1714

SPECIAL SELECTMEN'S MEETING WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2016, 7:00 P.M. ASHFORD TOWN OFFICES MINUTES

1. Call to order at 7:00 pm
2. Members present: Zambo, Fletcher, Falletti
Guests: Ray Fenn
3. Hear from the public
4. First Selectman's Briefing
 - A presentation of the OTOF Land Use Visioning Project by UConn Landscape Architecture students on March 31st at the Senior Center
 - CRCOG engineer, Henry Racki will meet with Zambo to discuss the development of a capital project portfolio for the Ashford School (renovations, repairs)
 - The Senior Center roof replacement project has been completed
 - The revaluation process will be starting this week
5. Hear from Boards, Commissions, Committees:
 - EDC representative Ray Fenn updated the BOS on status of the former A-1 gas station mural project. He reported that Charlie McCaughtry has prepared a preliminary plan and through a group effort, the window and doors openings in the building have been boarded up. The mural will be painted by a group of local artists with help from Ashford School Art Department students. The group is concerned about graffiti artists and asked that the State Police be asked to monitor the property during their rounds. There was discussion regarding placement of a pole light at the front of the property.
6. Fletcher moved acceptance of minutes of Regular Meeting of 3/21/2016 with the following corrections: Item #8 should be 7.e and should be corrected to note that Zambo seconded the motion which passed. Item #9 New Business should be Item #8. Item #10 should be item #9 and Item #11 should be Item #10. Zambo seconded the motion which passed. Falletti abstained as he did not attend that meeting.
7. Old Business
 - a. 300th Anniversary Committee report: Falletti reported that the 300th anniversary book will probably not see the anticipated October 2016 publication date. He credited Sherri Mutch with facilitating the construction work. Members of the Committee have begun collecting recollections from Ashford residents.
 - b. Policies and Procedures Manual: The Finance Department will be asked to pursue contact with Maureen Barber.
 - c. Cadlerock Property/DEEP: EDC representative Ray Fenn provided the BOS with the reasoning behind a resolution passed at the 3/31/2016 EDC meeting. This resolution requested the BOS to obtain a written opinion from Town Counsel regarding the innocent landowner statute as they relate to the Cadlerock property.

Fenn stated that the EDC is passionate about aggressively pursuing returning this property to productive use.

8. New Business
 - a. Report of Financial System Committee: The Town and School Finance Departments visited the Town of Woodstock Finance Department to evaluate the financial computer system being used there. The Committee plans to evaluate other systems before making their recommendation.
 - b. Committee/Commission appointments
 - o Board of Assessment Appeals – fill alternate vacancy
 - o Conservation Commission - Falletti moved the appointment of Eric Parent to fill a vacant alternate seat on the commission until 11/2017. Fletcher seconded the motion which passed.
 - c. Tax refunds
 - d. Falletti moved approval of use of Town of Ashford roads for August Steeple Chase Bike Tour. Fletcher seconded the motion which passed.
 - e. Ratification of letter of commitment for Eversource Municipal Bench Marking Technical Assistance Program. This item will be discussed at the 4/18/2016 BOS meeting.
 - f. Fletcher moved that the Annual Budget Meeting be set for Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at 7:30 p.m. in Knowlton Memorial Hall and that the Budget Referendum be set for Tuesday, May 3, 2016 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. in Knowlton Memorial Hall. Falletti seconded the motion which passed. Absentee ballots will be available from the Town Clerk on Wednesday, April 20, 2016.
9. Remarks for the good.....
10. Adjournment