

Town of Ashford

Established 1714

MEETING NOTICE

REGULAR SELECTMEN'S MEETING MONDAY, AUGUST 15, 2022, 7:00 P.M.

To be held virtually

MINUTES

1. Call to order at 7:00 p.m. It was again noted that the 6:30 Special Selectmen's Meeting ZOOM link was incorrectly posted.
2. Members present: Falletti, Phillips, Silver-Smith
Guests: Loretta Wrobel, Janet Bellamy, Sherry York, David Roston
3. Hear from the public
4. First Selectman's Briefing
 - The Town has received the 2022 CIRMA member equity distribution in the amount of \$8,795
 - The Town will be receiving \$1,750 as the first installment of the Opioid Settlement award
 - The 1992 Freightliner fire truck was sold for \$12,500 to the Anawalt, West Virginia Fire Department
 - Eversource has confirmed that their contractor will be performing tree trimming as detailed in their map dated 8/20/2021. Eversource anticipates that the trimming will be completed before the end of November. If you or any of our residents have concerns the Selectmen's Office should be contacted.
5. Phillips moved acceptance of the minutes of regular meeting of 8/1/2022. Silver-Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Silver-Smith moved acceptance of the minutes of the special meeting of 8/3/2022. Phillips seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
6. Hear from Boards, Commissions, Committees, Departments
7. Old Business
 - A. Discuss reopening strategies – Town facilities – update relating to the holding of board and commission meetings. The Board briefly discussed the introduction of the hybrid format used during the 8/8/2022 Public Hearing/Special Town Meeting.
 - B. Discuss and act on the scheduling of Public Informational Hearing to gather input on future uses of the Cadlerock property. Silver-Smith moved reiteration of the following motion introduced by Falletti at the BOS Special Meeting of 8/15/2022: “Moved to authorize the Ashford Board of Selectmen to call a public hearing on Thursday, September 8, 2022 at 6:30 p.m., at a location to be determined, to receive public input on potential uses of the Cadlerock property. Silver-Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.” Phillips seconded Silver-Smith's motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- C.** Ashford Advisory School Building Committee – There was no report from the Committee but Falletti reported that a replacement tank would not be available for one year. He also reported that pending a positive tank integrity test, our insurance carrier would continue to insure the tank that is currently in use.
 - D.** Update on after school childcare program as proposed by the Recreation Commission: Sherry York and David Roston presented a draft Ashford After School Program Parent Handbook and financial proposal for BOS consideration. If the program is approved, the Recreation Commission would be looking for the appropriation of seed money which would be reimbursed to the Town from participation fees. There is concern about the availability of staffing and the Board of Selectmen is still awaiting input from the Town’s insurance carrier, CIRMA, and review of the proposal by Town Counsel.
 - E.** COVID update: continuing to forward updates received from Eastern Highlands Health District
 - F.** Update of ARPA expenditures as authorized at Special Town Meeting of 8/8/2022. We have begun contacting vendors whose products and/or services were approved at the 8/8/2022 Special Town Meeting. The contract for restoration of the pickleball court has been signed and returned to the vendor.
 - G.** Silver-Smith moved acceptance of Savage Systems proposal to enter into a technology services agreement with Savage Systems for a period of three years. Phillips seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
 - H.** Reconsideration of revised short sale proposal for housing rehabilitation project 2010-02: Phillips moved approval of accepting the offer of \$6,000 to release a housing rehabilitation lien relating to a short sale transaction. Silver-Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
8. New Business
- A.** Silver-Smith moved the appointment of Ray Stovall to serve as Deputy Fire Marshal as recommended by Charles Sweetland, Ashford Fire Marshal. Phillips seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
 - B.** Phillips moved approval of the use of Town of Ashford roadways for the running of the 2022 NipMuck Trail Marathon. Silver-Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The AVFD will be notified of the approval of this event.
 - C.** Discuss safety procedures for Town Office Building employees. Falletti reported that he will be instituting fire drills and has attempted to contact the CSP re: active shooter training.
 - D.** Silver-Smith moved adoption of the following resolution:
 - We, the Ashford Board of Selectmen, plan to continue to seek out ways to make our transportation fleet more fuel and cost efficient and will seek out grants and other funding sources in order to make this resolution possible.
 - In order to demonstrate our dedication to reducing our greenhouse gas emissions, we will work with other communities in our region to develop appropriate charging infrastructure for both our transportation fleet and those vehicles owned by our local citizens. In addition, we will work to support strategic partnerships within and outside our region in order to incorporate more opportunities for our community to have access to a wider array of transportation options.Phillips seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- E. Board/Commission/Committee appointments**
- Commission on Aging: Fill vacant seat created by the resignation of Elaine Wilmes-Pandolfo. The term associated with Ms. Wilmes-Pandolfo's seat expires 6/30/2023
 - The BOS acknowledged the passing of Gary Lawrence and accepted, with regret, the resignation of Richard Williams from the Economic Development Commission effective August 5, 2022. The EDC will be requested to provide the names of prospective Commission members for BOS appointment consideration. The terms of both of these seats expire in February of 2025.
 - Recreation Commission: Fill vacant seat created by the resignation of regular commission member Sandra Moquin. The term associated with Ms. Moquin's seat expires 4/1/2026.
- F. Tax Refunds:** Phillips moved the following tax refunds citing CGA 12-129: to Mitchell Williamson in the amount of \$7,472.91 and to Gary Glenn in the amount of \$547.75. Silver-Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- G. Remarks for the good of the Board**
- H. Items for next BOS meeting**
9. Adjournment at 8:31 p.m.

Christine K. Abikoff