

Town of Ashford

Established 1714

REGULAR SELECTMEN'S MEETING MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.

ROOM 305, TOB

To be held via ZOOM

MINUTES

1. Call to order at 7:02 p.m.
2. Members present: Falletti, Phillips, Silver-Smith
Guests: Lynn Byberg, Luther Brauch
3. Hear from the public
4. First Selectman's briefing
 - Congratulations to Katie and her 7.2 pound son
 - The Barlow Mill Road bridge repair project has been completed at a cost of \$39,000 which, recently obtained information, places the location of the bridge solely in Ashford. Funding sources are still being investigated.
 - The Rec Department put on a wonderful 2022 carol sing. Aided by the Department of Public Works and the Babcock Band, they estimate approximately 100 folks in attendance.
 - Kit Eves and Charlie Busse are both home and recuperating.
 - Public Works anticipates start of Transfer Station fence and gate replacement tomorrow (12/6/2022)
 - Falletti reported that fall cleanup has been performed by Public Works at the entrance to Ashford Park and at along the roadside as the Cadlerock property and at some intersections.
 - Asplundh, Eversource tree trimming contractor, has begun working in Ashford. Outage issues on some of the town's roads are being investigated by Eversource.
 - Mansfield Tree Service has begun work at South Cemetery on Pumpkin Hill Road.
 - The BOS briefly discussed removal of dead trees on Varga Road. And noted that a tree fallen into a farmer's field will be removed by DPW when agreement is reached regarding a date for access to the field.
5. Silver-Smith moved tabling to 12/19/2022 acceptance of the minutes of 11/21/2022) (with a correction to 2023 meeting calendar – first January meeting should be Tuesday, January 3, 2023), noting that she had an additional correction to be made prior to approving the minutes.
6. Hear from Boards, Commissions, Committees
7. Old Business
 - A. Ashford Advisory School Building Committee: No report
 - B. Ashford School Roof Project: Following discussion which touched on construction/engineering costs and defining of soft costs (legal fees, advertising, and services of a financial advisor, Silver-Smith moved to appropriate \$5,000,000 for the Ashford School Roof Project. Phillips seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
 - C. Ashford School Roof Project: Silver-Smith moved adoption of the following resolution appropriating \$5,000,000 for costs related to the roof replacement project at the Ashford School; and authorizing the issuance of bonds and notes in the same amount to finance the appropriation. Phillips seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED,

(a) That the Town appropriate FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$5,000,000) for the costs of the planning, design, and construction of a new roof at the Ashford School (the "Project"). The appropriation may be spent for design, construction, demolition and removal of materials, installation, permitting and environmental costs, equipment, materials, architectural, engineering and other consultant fees, legal fees, net interest on borrowings and other financing costs, and other expenses related to the Project and its financing, including the preparation of schematic drawings and outline specifications for the Project. The Ashford School Building Committee, which has been established by the Board of Selectmen, is established as the building committee with regard to the Project, and shall determine the final scope and particulars of the Project. The Ashford School Building Committee may reduce or modify the scope of the Project, and the appropriation may be spent on the Project as so reduced or modified. The Town anticipates applying for and receiving a grant from the State Department of Education to defray a portion of the eligible costs of the Project.

(b) That the Town issue its bonds or notes in an amount not to exceed FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$5,000,000) to finance the appropriation for the project. The amount of bonds or notes authorized shall be reduced by the amount of grants or other available moneys received by the Town and not separately appropriated to pay additional costs of the Project. The bonds or notes shall be issued pursuant to Sections 7-369 and 10-289 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended, and any other enabling acts. The bonds or notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town.

(c) That the Town issue and renew its temporary notes from time to time in anticipation of the receipt of the proceeds from the sale of the bonds or notes for the project. The amount of the temporary notes outstanding at any time shall not exceed FIVE MILLION DOLLARS (\$5,000,000). The temporary notes shall be issued pursuant to Section 7-378 of the General Statutes of Connecticut, Revision of 1958, as amended. The temporary notes shall be general obligations of the Town secured by the irrevocable pledge of the full faith and credit of the Town. The Town shall comply with the provisions of Section 7-378a of the General Statutes with respect to any temporary notes if the notes do not mature within the time permitted by said Section 7-378.

(d) That the First Selectman and the Treasurer shall sign the bonds, notes or temporary notes by their manual or facsimile signatures. The law firm of Pullman & Comley, LLC is designated as bond counsel to approve the legality of the bonds, notes or temporary notes. The First Selectman and the Treasurer are authorized to determine the amount, dates, interest rates, maturities, redemption provisions, form and other details of the bonds, notes or temporary notes; to designate one or more bank or trust companies to be certifying bank, registrar, transfer agent and paying agent for the bonds, notes or temporary notes; to provide for the keeping of a record of the bonds, notes or temporary notes; to designate a financial advisor to the Town in connection with the sale of the bonds, notes or temporary notes; to sell and deliver the bonds, notes or temporary notes; and to perform all other acts which are necessary or appropriate to issue the bonds, notes or temporary notes.

(e) That the Town hereby declares its official intent under Federal Income Tax Regulation Section 1.150-2 that costs of the project may be paid from temporary advances of available funds and that the Town reasonably expects to reimburse any such advances from the proceeds of borrowings in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of the amount of borrowing authorized above for the project. The First Selectman and the Treasurer are authorized to amend such declaration of official intent as they

deem necessary or advisable and to bind the Town pursuant to such representations and covenants as they deem necessary or advisable in order to maintain the continued exemption from federal income taxation of interest on the bonds, notes or temporary notes authorized by this resolution if issued on a tax-exempt basis, including covenants to pay rebates of investment earnings to the United States in future years.

(f) That the First Selectman and the Treasurer are authorized to make representations and enter into written agreements for the benefit of holders of the bonds, notes or temporary notes to provide secondary market disclosure information, which agreements may include such terms as they deem advisable or appropriate in order to comply with applicable laws or rules pertaining to the sale or purchase of such bonds, notes or temporary notes.

(g) That the Board of Education and other proper officers of the Town designated by the First Selectman and the Treasurer are authorized to apply to the Commissioner of Administrative Services and to accept or reject grants for the Project; and to enter into any grant agreement necessary to obtain such grants. Any grant proceeds shall be used to pay Project costs or otherwise be applied to the payment of the principal and interest on bonds, notes or temporary notes.

(h) That the Board of Education and other proper officers of the Town designated by the First Selectman and the Treasurer are authorized to apply for and accept Federal grants to help finance the appropriation for the Project and to enter into any grant agreement necessary to obtain such grants. Any grant proceeds shall be used to pay Project costs or otherwise be applied to the payment of the principal and interest on bonds, notes or temporary notes.

(i) That the Board of Selectmen, the First Selectman, the Treasurer, the Board of Education and other proper officers and officials of the Town are authorized to take all other action which is necessary or desirable to complete the Project and to issue bonds, notes or temporary notes and obtain other funding to finance the aforesaid appropriation, including but not limited to applying for and accepting grants and other funds that may be available for the Project.

- D. Review 2022 STEAP funding procedure as recommended by Ashford's auditors. This item will be discussed with the auditor and BOF representatives at the 12/19/2022 BOS meeting.
- E. Ashford School oil tank replacement project bids: Discussion and possible action on tank purchase. The consensus of those attending a meeting on Friday, December 2nd (Falletti, the Ashford School interim Superintendent and Business Manager, the Town of Ashford Treasurer, was to recommend that the BOS accept a bid received from John W. Kennedy Company for provision of a 20,000/gallon underground fuel oil storage tank for installation at the Ashford School. The consensus of the BOS was to hold the bid award pending receipt of information regarding another tank supplier.
- F. Status of after school childcare program as proposed by the Recreation Commission: Falletti reported that he met with Ashford School interim Superintendent and Business Manager, Town of Ashford Treasurer, Recreation Director, Sherry York and Recreation Commission member David Roston to discuss proposed staffing of the program. The Ashford School interim Superintendent will approach the School's paraprofessionals to ascertain interest in staffing the proposed program.
- G. Discussion regarding Tremko House phasing plan and associated costs as submitted by Architect, Robert Hurd. Falletti met with Ashford Historical Society representatives Joan Bowley and Kay Warren to review the phasing plan received from Architect, Robert Hurd. Current and historical documents will be forwarded to members of the review committee (Chuck Funk, Michael Gardner, Joan Bowley) for comment and possible recommendations.

- H. Eversource tree trimming – public safety and power outage concerns. This item was covered under the first Selectman’s briefing.
 - I. Campert Lane road maintenance. Falletti reported that the Public Works Department will follow Ashford’s guidelines as set forth in a field inspection report received from Syl Pawley, NECCOG Regional Engineer.
 - J. Street lighting: Eversource has confirmed that work orders for two proposed street light installations are being drawn up.
 - K. American Rescue Plan: Reminder of Public Hearing/Special town Meeting, Monday, December 19, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.
8. New Business
- A. Assessor presentation regarding veteran’s tax exemptions: A document prepared by the Assessor will be attached to these minutes. Information contained in her presentation will be carried in the January edition of the Ashford Citizen. Further discussion and consideration of enactment of an ordinance relating to new legislation, PA22-34, Sec.33 will appear on the 12/19/2022 BOS agenda.
 - B. Accept with regret, the resignation of Art Talmadge, Charter member and Chairman of the Agriculture Commission
 - C. Board/Committee/Commission appointments
 - Recreation Commission – 1 Regular Member seat which expires 4/01/2026
 - Agriculture Commission – 1 Regular member seat which expires 3/15/2025
 - Conservation Commission – Alternate vacancy term of which expires 11/21/2023
 - Economic Development Commission – two vacancies which expire 2/02/2025
 - Commission on Aging – vacancy term of which expires 6/30/2023
 - Inland Wetlands & Watercourses Commission: 1 vacant Regular Member seat (Lipstreu) which expires 6/01/2025; 2 vacant Alternate Member seats which expire 6/01/2023
 - Zoning Board of Appeals – 1 Alternate Member seat which expires 11/05/2025
 - D. Tax Refunds: Phillips moved approval of a tax refund in the amount of \$234.73 to Honda Lease Trust citing CGS 12-129. Silver-Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
 - E. Remarks for the good
 - F. Items for next BOS meeting
9. Adjournment.

Ashford Board of Selectmen – Regular Meeting
Monday, December 5, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85020501919>

Meeting ID: 850 2050 1919

Dial by your location
+ 1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+ 1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://us06web.zoom.us/u/key5Pff1eT>

