

# Town of Ashford

*Established 1714*

## REGULAR SELECTMEN'S MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2023 at 9:00 A.M. TOWN OFFICE BUILDING, ROOM 305 **To be held in person and via ZOOM** MINUTES

1. Call to order at 9:01 a.m.
2. Members present: Falletti, Phillips, Silver-Smith  
Guests: Mike Panek, Mike D'Amato
3. Hear from the public: Mr. Panek thanked Mr. Falletti and the Board of Selectmen for acting on his remarks and questions in a timely manner.
4. First Selectman's briefing
  - Falletti reported that the 2022 Cadlerock remediation grant application was denied by DECD
  - Kudos to Eversource for the great job they did during the Christmas eve storm
  - The budget process is moving along
  - Falletti reported that responses to the RFP for financial advisors is due on Friday, January 13, 2023 at noon. Ms. Silver-Smith stated that as she was out of town when an email (sent on 12/30/2022) asking for comments from members of the Board was sent out, she did not have enough time to review the Department of Administrative Services posting which was posted to the State website on Monday, January 2, 2023.
  - Falletti reported on a meeting with Frontier Communications related to the service upgrade that is in the process of being installed around town. Silver-Smith questioned how this upgrade would benefit current users. Falletti will forward Frontier's power point presentation for review by the Board members
  - Hartford Steam Boiler, through CIRMA, has authorized performance of necessary electrical repairs at the dog pound.
  - Falletti reported that additional security cameras have been installed.
  - Falletti reported that Ashford's COVID incidence has been elevated to high
  - Trane and Nutmeg are currently conducting an evaluation of their systems within the TOB to pin point heating deficiencies that have been arising over the last several weeks.
  - Falletti requested that at the end of the agenda, a motion be made to add an Executive Session to discuss Human Resource strategies relating to open and temporary positions
5. Silver-Smith moved that approval of the minutes of 12/19/2022 be waived to the 1/17/2023 meeting pending her review of the video of the 12/19/2022 BOS meeting. Phillips seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
6. Hear from Boards, Commissions, Committees: No reports
7. Old Business
  - A. Review of Ashford School Roof Project bonding procedures – No update
  - B. Ashford Advisory School Building Committee – No report
  - C. Ashford School oil tank replacement project bids: Silver-Smith moved acceptance of the bid received from John W. Kennedy Company – RI in the amount of \$64,705.00 for provision of a 20,000 gallon, double wall fiberglass fuel tank for the Ashford School. Phillips seconded the motion. It is understood that Service Station Equipment, Inc. will oversee all phases of the project. John W. Kennedy Company will be asked to supply a contract for review by the BOS. The motion passed unanimously. Falletti will request a contract if it is applicable to the purchase of the tank.

- D. Status of after school childcare program as proposed by the Recreation Commission: Two applications have been received and two inquires regarding the advertised positions have been received. The Board of Selectmen will develop a list of staff qualifications and interview prospective job candidates with the understanding that the Town would be filling three positions. Items yet to be determined are pay scale, costs associated with training, allocation of start-up costs and seed money. Silver-Smith stressed that the Selectmen have yet to decide whether the after school child care program will run and whether it can be self-supporting. Members of the Board will be forwarded a copy of the program proposal analysis prepared by Dave Roston.
- E. Eversource tree trimming – public safety and power outage concerns: Asplundh has performed extensive power line clearing. The Town continues to pass customer concerns on to Eversource.
8. New Business
- A. Board/Committee/Commission appointments: A listing of open seats on BOS appointed Boards and Commissions will be forwarded to the Town Clerk for inclusion in the February edition of the Ashford Citizen.
- 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
- B. Tax Refunds: None
- C. Method of conducting future Selectmen’s Meetings: Members of the Board had no objection to holding their Tuesday meeting via TEAMS as long as they can be recorded and posted to the Town’s website.
- D. Phillips moved the reappointment of Christine Abikoff as Ashford’s Assistant Animal Control Officer for calendar year 2023. Silver-Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
- E. Remarks for the good
- F. Items for next BOS meeting
- Transfer Station management
- G. Silver-Smith moved addition to the agenda of an Executive Session to discuss human resource strategy relating to open and temporary positions. Phillips seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Silver-Smith moved the BOS into Executive Session at 10:06 a.m. Phillips seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The BOS exited Executive Session at 10:25 a.m. Present during Executive Session were Falletti, Phillips and Silver-Smith.
9. Adjournment at 10:25 a.m.

Ashford Board of Selectmen – Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, January 10, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89270155957>

Meeting ID: 892 7015 5957

Dial by your location

+1 646 931 3860 US

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