

Town of Ashford

Established 1714

REGULAR SELECTMEN'S MEETING TUESDAY, JANUARY 31, 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 9:12 a.m.
2. Members present: Falletti, Phillips, Silver-Smith
Guests, Ashford Town Clerk, Sherri Mutch
3. Hear from the public: No members of the public wishing to be heard at this time
4. First Selectman's briefing
 - COVID test kits are available in the Selectmen's Office. The expiration date of the available kits has been extended to 4/30/2023
 - In anticipation of the expected cold weather, Falletti has met with the Senior Center Director and has contacted the Emergency Management Director
 - Falletti reported that Asplundh is continuing to do tree trimming. They are currently working on Horse Hill Road and Campert Lane
 - The Frontier fiber optic upgrade is continuing
5. Phillips moved acceptance of the minutes of 1/17/2023. Silver-Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The minutes of 1/24/2023 will be added to the agenda for the 2/6/2023 regular BOS meeting
6. Hear from Boards, Commissions, Committees
7. Old Business
 - A. Recreation Commission membership: Phillips moved the appointment of Andrew Doering, as recommended by the Commission, to fill the full member seat vacated by Sandra Moquin on the Recreation Commission to expire 4/1/2026. Silver-Smith seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Silver-Smith moved the appointment of Amanda Holden to fill the vacant alternate member seat on the Recreation Commission previously held by Elena Phillipi, term to expire 4/1/2024. Phillips seconded the motion which passed unanimously.
Town Counsel has been queried regarding appointment of a Recreation Commission Chairman. Statutes and our ordinance are being examined. Discussion regarding membership status re: membership status of Chairman.
Discussion re: lack of formal votes and absence of votes taken at Recreation Commission meetings.
 - B. Status of after school childcare program as proposed by the Recreation Commission: Falletti will be contacting applicants for the staff positions related to this proposed program and should have something to report at the next BOS meeting
8. New Business
 - A. Board/Committee/Commission appointments
 - Recreation Commission – 1 Regular Member seat which expires 4/01/2026: This item was acted upon under agenda item 7.A.
 - Conservation Commission – Alternate vacancy term of which expires 11/21/2023
 - Economic Development Commission – two vacancies which expire 2/02/2025
 - Commission on Aging – Based upon a recommendation received from the COA and a letter of interest to serve on that Commission, Silver-Smith moved the appointment of

Charlene Armitage to serve as a member of the COA to expire 6/30/2023. Phillips seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- 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. Discuss and/or act on setting a special town meeting date for proposed ARPA allocations: Falletti will contact NECCOG regarding reporting. Falletti reminded the BOS of the school's request to substitute a 24-passenger mid bus for the annual purchase of a 71-passenger full sized bus. This request was acted on at the 1/24/2023 BOS meeting as a recommendation to have town meeting approve the allocation of \$90,000 for the purchase of said mid bus. There are several other items relating to ARPA funding which will be discussed at a future BOS meeting. Following calculation of previously approved and anticipated items funded under the ARPA, we show an uncommitted balance of \$179,746. Silver-Smith questions when the next filing is due and what information is needed to substantiate the expense. Falletti will follow up with NECCOG. Falletti has been in contact with Margie Chatey, Chairman of the Economic Development Commission and Mike Gantick regarding the status of the small business assistance program funded through ARPA. Mike D'Amato describes Willington's small business assistance program.

D. Silver-Smith moved addition to the agenda of discussion to consider addition of a Town of Ashford Webmaster position. Phillips seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Discussion regarding communication received from Town Clerk, Sherri Mutch regarding additional work taken on by her office involving her editing and publication of the Ashford Citizen and Assistant Town Clerk, Karen Zulick's maintenance of the Town's web site and Facebook page. A draft service proposal and stipend request has been received for review. Job descriptions will be solicited from other towns. Falletti will contact webpage administrator for additional information. The BOS appreciates Karen's willingness to fill this gap.

E. Remarks for the good

F. Items for next BOS meeting

9. Adjournment at 9:47 a.m.

Ashford Board of Selectmen – Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 31, 2023, 9:00 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85361146725>

Meeting ID: 853 6114 6725

Dial by your location

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+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

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