

Board of Selectmen Meeting
Minutes

Date: June 6, 2012

Time: 7:01 p.m.

Members present: Peter McMurray and Mike McCallum

Fire Department Service Recognition (Fire Chief):

Bill Seymour, Fire Chief introduced Mike Bussell and presented him with a service recognition award and congratulated him on 20 years of service to the Fire Department. Wayne Stacy, former Fire Chief who is now the Fire Department Chaplain was also presented with a service recognition award for 50 years of service to the Fire Dept. They were also thanked by the BOS for all their many years of service.

- 2) Motion to approve permission for Kopelman and Paige, Town Counsel for both Ashby and Townsend to work on the ALS Contract.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Peter McMurray Vote: Unan

- 3) Motion for Selectmen's appointment of Mike Bussell as Certified Water Operator.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Peter McMurray Vote: Unan

- 4) Motion to approve and sign on Highway Union Memorandum of Agreement.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Peter McMurray Vote: Unan

- 5) Motion to approve and sign for two (2) one day liquor license to the Fitchburg Rod and Gun Club for June 16, 2012 and June 23, 2012.

Motion: Mike McCallum Seconded: Peter McMurray Vote: Unan

Discussion of Town Administrator's Position:

Doug Brigg's contract will expire on June 30, 2012. He has decided not to continue with the sharing arrangement with Ashby and Ashburnham. He spoke to the Board on his responsibilities and his desire to follow through on the projects and polices that he has worked with. He states that there is a Selectman in Ashburnham who would prefer that he return to Ashburnham and not share with Ashby. DB and the BOS are looking for ways to continue the arrangement and agreement to complete what he has started until a solution for his leaving has been established. The Selectmen are working with the Chairman of the BOS in Ashburnham to help with the transition. Negotiations are now ongoing to see if DB contract could be extended until a plan is in place. Doug is very happy working with Ashby and had high praise for the people he works with at Town Hall and other departments. PM suggested that there is a "very capable" employee in Town Hall that would be quite able to take over the Town Administrator's duties and Doug agreed, stating he would be very happy to mentor that employee.

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Beth Ann Scheid brought up the fact that Jennifer Collins is extremely knowledgeable in the Town of Ashby business and could be of great help to the Town. PM stated his regret with DB decision to not renew his contract but understands his reasons. He commended him for all he has done for the Town and for his vast knowledge of Town government.

Any other business not reasonably anticipated by the Chairman:

DB spoke on the possibility that the override won't pass and what will have to be addressed. All 3 towns will be voting on this on the same day – June 21st.

DB spoke on an Executive Session for Bill Davis and is working on setting up a time.

Historical Society will be open Sat. 10 – 2 for people to come and look at the building and its contents.

School Override vote will be on Saturday June 21, 2012 at the Ashby Elementary School from 12:00 noon until 7:30 p.m.

Michael McCallum has asked about the Open Meeting Law. He was concerned about the use of email. DB clarified the law. PM stated that Kopelman and Paige ruled that it was ok as long as no decisions are made and no discussions are held in regards to BOS business.

PM spoke to Lillian Whitney in regards to the 250th Anniversary Committee that she is trying to get started. He only received 2 Yes responses to the emails and TA Letter that was mailed out. He suggested that it might be too early to try and get things going. PM asked where the money is that was left over from the last celebration. She states there is nothing leftover but she does have money in an account in her name that she has raised.

PM will post to see if there is any interest in serving on the Town's website. The celebration of 250 years is not until the year 2017.

Public Comments (if any):

June 23, 2012 is the Alumni Association Meeting. The Ashby Historical Society will be giving a history on the old Ashby High School.

6) Motion to adjourn at 7:44 p.m.

Motion: Mike McCallum

Seconded: Peter McMurray

Vote: Unan

Signed by: _____

Dates Minutes Approved by Board of Selectmen: _____