

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – February 1, 2012

Selectmen Philip Germain, Steven Osienski and Joseph Cuddemi were present as well as Administrator Denise French. Also attending the meeting was Barry White and Ashley Saari, Monadnock Ledger-Transcript reporter. The meeting was called to order at 5:46 p.m.

Peter Martel met with the Selectmen by invitation to discuss citizen complaints about what appears to be excessive use of the Town Hall gymnasium for Robotics. He reported that with more volunteer participation he could significantly limit his time at Town Hall. Mr. Martel assured the Board that he is amicable to sharing the space.

From 7:05 p.m. to 7:37 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c). Present by invitation was Linda Osienski. Also present were Selectmen Germain and Cuddemi as well as Administrator French. Selectman Osienski recused himself from this portion of the meeting and left the room. No decisions were made.

Caleb Healey met with the Selectmen to discuss his dissatisfaction of receiving an invoice from a Water Commissioner's business and from the Town of Bennington for the same water leak event. The Selectmen will review the matter with Commissioner Wilson.

In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Reviewed and approved the Selectmen's January 25, 2012 Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved the January 31, 2012 Payroll Register and the February 1, 2012 Accounts Payable Register.
- Reviewed a January 27, 2012 letter from David and Scott Veale regarding their property ownership and property rights, their perception of an error with the town line and their boundary lines and their request that the Town reconsider the reason for not modifying the culvert system in the vicinity of their property. The Administrator will provide a courtesy response.
- Reviewed a January 23, 2012 letter from Bhagirath Joshi, Manager of Joshi Hospitality Group, LLC requesting from Code Officer Peter Hopkins his letter allegedly written in response to Joshi's letter that "the work has been completed at Highland Inn" on July 3, 2008. Mr. Joshi states that no work has been done since July 3, 2008 and objects to Hopkins' report that the project is abandoned; it has never been abandoned and still is not abandoned. The Selectmen will invite the Code Officer in to discuss a plan of action intended to bring this lengthy matter to a successful conclusion.
- Heard a report that the facility cost for the January 10<sup>th</sup> Election was \$683; only \$350 had been budgeted for each of the four 2012 elections. The Selectmen will seek approval from Conval to hold future elections (excepting the March 13<sup>th</sup> Town Meeting) at Pierce School.
- Received Stantec Consulting Services' Tri-Town Landfill 2011 Annual Groundwater Protection Report as was submitted to NHDES-Waste Management Division.

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- Scheduled February 15<sup>th</sup> as the Public Hearing date to discuss Warrant Article 2 which proposes to rescind the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB-2).
- Prepared for the February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting at 6:45 p.m. to discuss acceptance of the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Award for the Bible Hill Road Culvert Project.
- Prepared for the February 7<sup>th</sup> meeting at 7:00 p.m. for the SB-2 First Session.
- Approved the Draft Engineering Study for the Antrim/Bennington Bridge and will recommend that it be presented to NHDOT.
- Reviewed a Memorandum of the January 26, 2012 Utility Meeting as prepared by Quantum Construction Consultants regarding the Antrim and Bennington Bridges as well as the Bible Hill Road Culvert Project.
- Signed an Intent to Cut for M6/L2.
- Requested information as to whether the Town can insist on taxes being current at the time of real estate development.
- Voted to hold next week's Selectmen's meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. ahead of the SB-2 First Session; their February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting is canceled.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French  
Town Administrator