

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – February 15, 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 Monadnock Ledger-Transcript reporter Ashley Saari.

Pack 2 Webelos met with the Board of Selectmen and asked many thoughtful questions in pursuit of their Citizen Pin.

Road Agent Gary Russell met with the Selectmen and discussed the following:

- The need for a temporary as-needed employee since his resource list has dwindled. He was authorized to hire a suitable candidate, subject to a favorable background check, at a rate not to exceed \$15.00 an hour.
- Scheduled training dates for all Highway Department employees.
- The need for a back-up gasoline account. The Selectmen approved acquisition of one gas card at a Bennington business.
- An unpaid Transfer Station fee for disposal of a fiberglass boat last summer. The Administrator will invoice the responsible individual; if payment is not made within fourteen days the resident's Transfer Station privileges will be revoked.
- As requested by the Water/Sewer Commissioners the Board discussed with the Road Agent the number of Highway Department employees that participate in water-line maintenance activities. Gary reported that due to safety considerations for traffic control and employees at the site of a dig it is not unusual for all three employees to participate, although the decision is made on a case-by-case situation.
- The Water/Sewer Commissioners have yet to schedule a communications forum as was previously discussed to enhance the critical flow of information amongst town officials and the public.

From 7:03 p.m. until 7:45 p.m. the Selectmen conducted a Public Hearing in accordance with RSA 40:14 IV with regard to a Warrant Article to rescind the provisions of RSA 40:13. Present were Victoria Turner, Drusilla Cox and Jon Manley.

Water/Sewer Commissioners Glenn Wilson and John Spanos were disappointed they had to wait for the Public Hearing to end and, not having received any communication from the Administrator, they left before meeting with the Board of Selectmen.

Code Officer Peter Hopkins met with the Selectmen by invitation to discuss the following:

- M3/L14 is now in compliance with the Zoning Ordinance. The Selectmen agreed to abate the value of the buildings whose removal had been ordered by the Town. The Selectmen voted to close the case file in this matter.
- A letter from the Code Officer to the property owner of M13/L14 was jointly reviewed. The letter clearly states that a new Building Permit is required.

Board of Selectmen Minutes – February 15, 2012

Peter Martel met with the Selectmen and discussed the following:

- Conval School District's varied policy for use of their facilities in Conval communities.
- Robotics schedule. It was mutually agreed that, excepting tournament preparations, use of the Town Hall gymnasium would cease no later than 10:00 p.m.
- The current security settings for the front entry door which creates a need to prop the door open for visitors.
- The need to discontinue access into the Administrative Office while the cleaning crew has the office door open.

In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Reviewed and approved the February 7, 2012 Selectmen's Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved the Accounts Payable Registers for February 8 and 15, 2012 as well as the February 14, 2012 Accounts Payable Register.
- Discussed ideas for informing the voters about background information that led to the creation of each Warrant Article.
- Heard a report that the next Facilities Review meeting is February 21, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.
- Agreed that the Administrator should provide a letter to the State in support of the Town Clerk's Boat Agent Agreement.
- Agreed to an employee's request that the deadline for taking their 2011 vacation allotment be extended due to extenuating circumstances.
- Reviewed Police Statistics for the month of January.
- Signed three copies of the 2011 Financial Report.

From 8:30 p.m. until 9:20 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Germain, Osienski and Cuddemi as well as Administrator French. No decisions were made.

The meeting adjourned at 9:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Town Administrator