

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – March 7, 2012

Selectmen Philip Germain, Steven Osienski and Joseph Cuddemi were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

By invitation Water/Sewer Commissioners Glenn Wilson, John Spanos and Salvatore Landi were present to discuss the following:

- An invoice received by Caleb Healey for water repairs at his property. It was agreed that the Town's invoice #2011-17 would be revised to reflect a reduction of \$36.65 for parts and material resulting in a balance due the Town of \$265.35.
- Draft revisions to the Water/Sewer By-Laws. It was agreed that under APPLICATION FOR WATER SERVICE, 6, B, b the sentence should read "If in the opinion of the Commissioners and the Board of Selectmen, the application should be favorably considered, they shall request the Selectmen to either insert an appropriate article in the Town Warrant for an annual or special Town Meeting for consideration of the voters of the Town of Bennington, or by a request from the Commissioners *to the Board of Selectmen* for a request to withdraw funds from a Capital Reserve account designated for that purpose."
- Reviewed the Selectmen's conversation with the Road Agent regarding the number of Highway Department employees working together on a water line repair.
- The continued lack of communication regarding matters of interest to the consumer. Commissioner Wilson reported that he did not receive information from the Superintendent prior to the recent change over from Antrim to Bennington water.
- The Commissioners are looking to the Administrator to schedule the requested communications forum between the Commissioners, Water/Sewer Superintendent, Road Agent and Administration.
- The Commissioners will review propane usage at the water pump house since it appears that more product has been used lately.

From 6:15 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Germain, Osienski and Cuddemi, Administrator French, Michael Roina and Steve Campbell. No decisions were made.

Barry White met with the Selectmen and presented information regarding state-wide voting statistics for communities voting under SB-2. Also presented was town data accessed from the SWRPC website.

From 7:25 p.m. until 7:40 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Germain, Osienski and Cuddemi, Administrator French, and Joseph O'Brien. No decisions were made.

From 7:57 p.m. until 8:05 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Germain, Osienski and Cuddemi, Administrator French, and Michael Roina. No decisions were made.

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ZBA Chair Peter Martel and Planning Board Chair Jeff Rose met with the Selectmen to discuss procedural land use Board matters.

In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Reviewed and approved the Selectmen's February 22, 2012 Minutes.
- Reviewed the ZBA's February 20, 2012 Minutes and the Conservation Commission's February 16, 2012 Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved the February 23, February 29 and March 7, 2012 Accounts Payable Registers.
- Reviewed and approved the February 29 and March 6, 2012 Payroll Registers.
- Heard Chief Campbell's report that one of the part-time officers will be on medical leave for an unknown period of time lasting from five weeks to three months.
- Heard the Administrator's report that the Board of Tax and Land Appeals will likely mandate the 2014 Revaluation of property if the voters decline to appropriate the necessary funds to undertake the State certification mandate. All associated costs would be assessed at the time the 2014 tax rate is set.
- Heard a report that NHDOT is issuing a Request for Proposals to find a new short-line railroad operator to operate the state owned rail in Bennington, Greenfield and Wilton. The information has been shared with Monadnock Paper Mills, Inc.
- Heard a complaint that the Town did not do enough public relations prior to the mandated hearing on the Warrant Article to rescind SB-2 voting.
- Received the Moderator's Survey of Voter Opinion which seeks information regarding the voter's preference for future voting location.
- Reviewed February Police Statistics.
- Received NHDOT's Approval of Engineering Fee for the Antrim/Bennington bridge. Quantum Construction Consultants are now authorized to proceed with developing a Scope and Fee for the preliminary phase and final contract plans.
- Tabled Quantum Construction Consultants' Proposal for Professional Engineering Services – Final Design until after the March 13th vote of Warrant Article 5 which asks the voter to raise and appropriate funds needed for the replacement of the shared Antrim/Bennington bridge.
- An Employee Time-Off Request was approved by the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Town Administrator