

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – March 28, 2012

Selectmen Steven Osienski, Joseph Cuddemi and James Cleary were present as well as Administrator Denise French. Also attending the meeting was Monadnock Ledger-Transcript reporter Ashley Saari. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Moderator John J. Cronin, III met with the Selectmen to discuss the following election site concerns:

- By a vote of two to one, voters indicated that polling should not take place at Pierce School while the students are present.
- The potential for lower voter turnout due to limited parking available while school is in session.
- The need to pursue use of Pierce School as a short-term solution until the Town can provide long-term use at a town-owned facility.
- The need to continue dialog with Pierce School Principal Pamela Campbell who will be invited to attend the next Board meeting in concert with the Moderator.

From 7:05 p.m. until 7:44 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c) to continue discussion on an Abatement request. Present were Selectmen Osienski, Cuddemi and Cleary, Administrator French and Jason Michaels. No decision was made.

From 7:45 p.m. until 7:47 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c) to discuss a candidate for employment. Present were Selectmen Osienski, Cuddemi and Cleary, Administrator French and Fire Chief Michael Roina. The Selectmen tabled review of the application until further information is received.

The Selectmen acted on the following matters:

- Selectmen Cuddemi and Osienski reviewed and approved Minutes of the March 7 and March 14, 2012 meetings.
- Selectmen Cuddemi and Cleary reviewed and approved Minutes of the March 21, 2012 meeting.
- The Board reviewed and approved the March 27, 2012 Payroll Register and the March 28, 2012 Accounts Payable Register.
- The Board voted the following 2012 appointments:
  - Board of Selectmen Chair – Steven Osienski
  - Planning Board Ex-officio – Steven Osienski
  - Capital Reserve Funding Committee – one year each: Steven Osienski, Joseph Cuddemi, Joseph MacGregor, Robyn Manley, and Harvey Goodwin. Since two fellow Selectmen are on this Committee, James Cleary declined appointment to allow an opportunity for an interested resident (to be determined) to serve on the Committee.
  - Conservation Commission – three years each: John Baybutt, Valerie Germain and Joshua Stewart
  - Highway Safety Committee – Steve Campbell, Joseph Cuddemi and Gary Russell.

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- Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee – one year each: Steve Campbell, Kristie LaPlante, Joseph MacGregor, Richard Reed, Michael Roina and Gary Russell.
- Newhall Park Board – with recommendations from Trustee Scott Liljeberg: David Baker – three year term; Brian Whittemore – an Alternate for one year.
- Solid Waste Committee – one year each: Joseph Cuddemi, Benjamin Billings and Gary Russell.
- Zoning Board of Adjustment – three year term: Steven Osienski
- Recreation Director – Joseph Cuddemi
- Building Committee Ex-officio – James Cleary
- Asked the Police Chief to follow-up with Antrim regarding a start date for the Police Regionalization Study Committee to convene.
- Welcomed the news that Joyce Miner has agreed to serve as Deputy Treasurer.
- Received a report that a disgruntled abutter to the culvert replacement project has removed survey flags and stated that no construction will be permitted on their lands. Selectman Cleary volunteered to meet with the property owner.
- With regard to the BennTrim bridge replacement project:
  - Agreed that the public presentation of information should be held in Antrim since their two additional bridge projects will be included in the presentation.
  - Citing pedestrian safety, the Board agreed that the bridge width should remain at 28' even though cost could be reduced by \$60,000 if the roadway was reduced to 24'.
  - Heard a report that DOT is now recommending a three-rail system with the recently replaced guardrails being reinstalled at one of the Antrim bridge projects. Since Bennington paid towards the existing guardrail replacement project and will likely be invoiced for the new three-rail system the Board will inquire what the additional cost to the Town of Bennington will be.
- Chairman Osienski signed the Transportation Enhancement Program Project Agreement.
- Upon receiving additional information from TEP2 Project Manager Robert Hudson, the Selectmen revisited their prior decision to delay the TEP2 Project until 2014. Now recognizing that a one year delay could impact the project negatively by approximately \$29,800 due to inflation the Selectmen unanimously voted not to delay the TEP2 project.
- Signed an Intent to Excavate for M11/L12.
- Signed an Employee Time-Off Request.

The meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French  
Town Administrator