

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – July 18, 2012

Selectmen Steven Osienski and James Cleary were present as well as Administrator Denise French.

With regret the Selectmen received the resignation of Selectman Joseph Cuddemi which was effective as of July 17th. Mr. Cuddemi also resigned his positions on the Solid Waste Committee, Capital Reserve Funding Committee, Recreation Committee and the Highway Safety Committee.

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

- The Class V and VI portions of Onset Road, Switzer Road, Mountain Road and Sawyer Park Road will be discussed at the Board's August 1 meeting. The information is required for submission to NHDOT.
- Restoration of the widened portion of Starrett Road will be done as time permits.
- Bennington Highway bartered calcium chloride to Greenfield Highway in exchange for a yard and a half bucket.
- Pest control at the VFW.
- Clean-up of bat guano and replacement of the attic hatch at Town Hall will be done as time permits. The Selectmen will view the affected areas to determine if the expenditure of \$3,200 is warranted to seal all entry points into the attic.

Fire Chief Michael Roina met with the Selectmen and discussed the following:

- Authorization to purchase almost new Res-Q-Jacks from the Town of Hopkinton at a cost of \$2,500.
- Supported the concept of Heart Safe Communities if the life-saving equipment could be obtained through AED Grants, etc.
- Authorized the employment of Douglas Whittey.
- Authorized the replacement of an upstairs broken window even though the building maintenance line-item is already overspent.
- Agreed to defer the purchase of one SCBA from the Capital Reserve Fund until the number of personnel grows.

From 6:51 p.m. until 6:59 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Osienski and Cleary, Administrator French and Chief Roina. No decisions were made.

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Glenn Gerrish and Scott Liljeberg met with the Selectmen to discuss the following expressed concerns about M17/L22 activities:

- Limitations in the Water Resource Protection Zone as well as the provisions within RSAs 236:11 through :129.
- Assurance that there are no vehicle maintenance operations occurring from this property other than personal maintenance of the owner's vehicles.
- Vehicles are not being sold.
- The number of unregistered vehicles has been greatly diminished.
- The four or five mud rigs cannot be inspected because they are not road worthy.
- The need to establish a policy for vehicles used in pursuit of a recreational hobby.
- The group will continue discussion at the Selectmen's August 1st meeting.

Planning Board Chair Jeff Rose met with the Selectmen and discussed the following:

- A letter the Planning Board received from the owner of Mike's Towing which outlines his business plan which originates from M13/L31. The Selectmen appreciated receipt of the information and agreed that no Town action is required.
- The status of updating the Master Plan to project the ensuing ten years.

Starrett Road resident Vicky Turner met with the Selectmen and discussed the following:

- Tentative road construction projects schedule which could impact her neighborhood from detoured traffic.
- Her volunteerism to restore vegetation at the site of the recent road widening project. The Highway Department will provide the loam and hay bales if needed.

In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Reviewed and approved the Selectmen's June 20, 2012 Minutes.
- Reviewed the Zoning Board of Adjustment's June 18th Minutes, the Energy Committee's June 26th Minutes and the Recreation Committee's July 17th Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved Payroll Registers and Accounts Payable Registers for June 26th, July 3rd, July 10th and July 17, 2012.
- In response to a written request, agreed to attempt notification to the property owners of M2/L17 in the event of future Whitemore Beach lake advisory.
- Confirmed that the allotment of holiday pay should be included in the employee's weekly time sheet and considered when overtime is paid after forty hours – or in the case of a police officer, after forty-three hours.
- Heard reports that a part-time police officer will be returning August 1st from medical leave of absence and that the Police Chief plans to interview two certified officer candidates for consideration of part-time employment.

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- Agreed to permit the Sportsmen Club to use Sawyer Park for their participation in the Town-wide Yard Sale slated for August 18th.
- Received notice from Primex of a \$10,763.64 “Premium Holiday” which represents a return of Workers’ Compensation surplus in premiums paid.
- Agreed not to change the health insurance reimbursement amounts as of July 1st since the differing amounts are negligible. This equates to the following annual reimbursements as of July 1, 2012 for eligible employees – Single \$1,600, Two-Person \$3,200 and Family \$4,300.
- The Selectmen voted to purchase oil for the 2012/2013 heating season from Rymes at a cost of \$3.189 per gallon. The closest competitor’s proposal was \$3.289. The Selectmen also voted to purchase propane from Rymes at a cost of \$1.739 per gallon.
- Reviewed an Affidavit from Dick Horn relative to repeated delays in replacing the water meter at 34 Acre Street and his request that the pending water/sewer bill for this residence reflect common sense. He also suggests that meters be replaced at 11 Old Greenfield Road and 36/38 Acre Street to preclude future problems.
- Regretfully heard a report that the Hillsborough County Commissioners have taken action to immediately and indefinitely suspend the Department of Corrections Community Service Program due to fiscal constraints.
- Reviewed Police Statistics for June and the 2nd Quarter of 2012.
- Authorized Town Clerk Debra Belcher to install a small sign outside of Town Hall advertising that Bennington is now a Boat Agent who can issue boat registrations to anyone regardless of their residency.
- Related to the Antrim/Bennington Bridge:
 - The Administrator reported obtaining a Letter of Commitment from Peoples’ Bank for a State Aid Anticipation Note in the amount of \$1,350,000 at 1.75% interest for a five year period. The loan will be finalized after Antrim and Bennington appropriations of \$135,000 each have been exhausted.
 - Received copy of Quantum Construction Consultants, LLC request for an amendment to the Shoreland Permit by Notification 2012-00847 and an amendment to the Wetlands Permit 2012-00818 whereby permission is requested to impact an additional 965 SF of shoreland for the installation of Keyed Stone Fill to stabilize the bank and protect the bridge.
 - The June 27, 2012 updated project schedule projects a December 11, 2012 date to finalize the Construction Contract.
- The following documents were signed by the Board:
 - Building Permits
 - ✓ M1/L6
 - ✓ M7/L127
 - ✓ M10/L29

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➤ Building Permits, continued

✓ M17/L28

✓ M20/L7

➤ Notice of Welfare Lien

✓ M7/L16

✓ M13/L5-E4

✓ M22/L11B

Revised abatement – M21/L13-1

Amended Tax Deferral Application – M21/L13-1

Intent to Cut – M21/13-3; Permit will be held pending receipt of a \$1,143 bond.

Employee Time-off Request

Federal Surplus Property Agreement

- Tabled approval of a Building Permit and Notice of Welfare Lien for M2/L21 until a Board of three Selectmen is in session.

From 8:10 p.m. until 8:38 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a) to discuss potential appointees to fill the Selectman vacancy created by the resignation of Joseph Cuddemi. Present were Selectmen Osienski and Cleary as well as Administrator French. No decision was made.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Town Administrator