

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – August 1, 2012

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

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

- At the request of NHDOT the Nodal Map was reviewed and the classification of certain roads was clarified; copy attached herewith.
- Granted permission for a contractor hired to move a modular home onto a Deering property via Bennington's Switzer Road to add fill to a 70' section of the Class VI road at the intersection of Codman Hill Road and Switzer Road.
- Heard a report that the replacement compactor has been installed and is in service. The Board asked the Road Agent to advertise the sale of the old compactor at \$2,500.
- The Road Agent agreed to deliver loam, etc. to the recently widened portion of Starrett Road for use by volunteer Vicky Turner to restore vegetation.
- Voted to deny an individual permission to remove recycled electronics from the Transfer Station.
- Heard a report that the Highway Department will restore the road surface of Dodge Hill Road after the completion of the ditching and culvert installation project with cold mix they have prepared. In order to avoid paying a vendor approximately \$15,000 (\$30/ton) to spread the mix the Highway Department will use the Town's equipment to finish the job.

Administrator French and Road Agent Russell reported their July 27th meeting with Lisa Martin and James Bouchard from Quantum Construction Consultants, LLC. when the Bible Hill Road Culvert Project was discussed at length. The environmental permitting process is taking longer than anticipated and the optimum opportunity for culvert replacement is during the months of June, July and August when the river is typically at its lowest flow. These factors were dominant in the decision to delay the Hazard Mitigation Project until the spring of 2014, after the Antrim/Bennington bridge has been replaced. The FEMA Grant has an expiration date of January 12, 2015.

Acre Street resident Peter Cordatos met with the Board to continue discussion of his request that the Town block a storm drain pipe. The Selectmen will consult with the Road Agent who has been a party to many of the previous discussions.

Bob Odell, candidate for re-election to the State Senate in the "new" 8th District which encompasses Bennington, and Crotched Mountain President and CEO Don Shumway met with the Selectmen seeking Bennington's support of a \$2.2 million dollar grant for a permanent conservation easement to preserve 1,260 acres of forest in Bennington, Frankestown and Greenfield. Also attending this portion of the meeting was Tony Parisi. The Selectmen enthusiastically support the conservation easement which will protect local watersheds and preserve a large area of diverse woods and wildlife habitat. The matter will be taken up again by the Joint Legislative Fiscal Committee at their September 14th meeting.

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In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Reviewed and approved the Selectmen's July 18, 2012 Minutes.
- Reviewed the Cemetery Trustees' July 10th Minutes as well as the Planning Board's July 9th Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved Payroll Registers for July 24 and July 31, 2012, Accounts Payable Registers for July 25 and August 1, 2012 as well as Expenditures for the past seven months.
- Agreed to request a written Plan of Action and an inventory of automotive parts stored from the owner of M17/L22 as they relate to the owner's recreational hobby.
- Asked for information from the VFW caretaker as to the usage of the VFW for the Board's use in evaluating whether or not the Town should winterize the building for the period November through March.
- Heard a report of an employee's work-related injury sustained during a building fire.
- Reviewed July Police Statistics.
- Received Contract B Documents and Project Manual for the Antrim/Bennington bridge replacement project.
- Signed a Petition and Police License.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Town Administrator