

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – December 12, 2012

Selectmen James Cleary and Jeffrey Rose were present as well as Administrator Denise French. Selectman Osienski was absent with advance notice. The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m.

Jeff Rose was appointed acting Chair of the Board of Selectmen for this meeting.

From 6:07 p.m. until 6:27 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c). Present were Selectmen Cleary and Rose, Administrator French and Health Officer Lise Lemieux. Upon hearing the results of Health Officer Lemieux's thorough investigation into a complaint of pollution generated health issues and a public nuisance, the Selectmen determined that evidence does not exist to sustain the complainant's allegation that a specific neighbor's wood smoke is the source of their discomfort.

Steve Campbell met with the Board and discussed the following:

- The Police Department is eligible for a grant to fund the purchase of a second portable radio. Acting Chair Rose signed the Grant Application.
- In his position as VFW Quartermaster, Steve reported that the VFW membership plans to clean the building's attic the second week of January ahead of the Town's plan to add insulation to the attic area. The Selectmen voted to waive associated Transfer Station disposal fees.

From 6:40 p.m. until 6:50 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Cleary and Rose and C. Stephen Campbell. No decision was made.

From 7:08 p.m. until 7:55 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c). Present were Selectmen Cleary and Rose, Administrator French, Welfare Director Debra Davidson and an applicant for Aid. The Town voted a temporary loan to enable the applicant the ability to provide heat in their home with a promise of repayment due the Town no later than April 30, 2013. The Selectmen also voted to defer the December Forbearance Agreement payment.

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

- Delivered notice that the Order to Vacate the upstairs at Town Hall was lifted December 7, 2012 after great progress has been made to rectify the dangerous conditions that previously existed.
- Stated the need for evacuation plans for each room within each Town building.
- Recommended a stipend for each of the three Fire Officers who stepped up this year during the Fire Department's leadership transition. The matter was tabled until the full Board is in session.

From 8:20 p.m. until 8:50 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Cleary and Rose, Administrator French and Library Trustees Victoria Burnham, Laurie MacKeigan, Molly Eppig and Alternate David McKenzie. The Trustees will convene a meeting amongst themselves and report their decisions back to the Board of Selectmen.

Board of Selectmen Minutes – December 12, 2012

The Selectmen took action on the following matters:

- Reviewed and approved the Selectmen’s November 28, 2012 Minutes.
- Reviewed Minutes of the Planning Board’s November 26th meeting, Minutes from the combined Planning & Zoning Hearing of December 3rd, and Minutes from the Energy Committee’s December 5, 2012 meeting.
- Reviewed and approved Payroll Registers for December 5 and December 12, 2012 and Accounts Payable Registers for November 29, December 5 and December 12, 2012. Also reviewed were expenses through November 30, 2012.
- Heard the Administrator’s report that the Town of Bennington is included in a complaint filed with the NH Bureau of Securities against the Local Government Center (LGC). The matter is relative to LGC’s decision not to refund surplus insurance funds previously paid to their organization to those towns whom have left their health insurance program. The formal complaint is being led by the Towns of Peterborough and Durham.
- Confirmed the Board’s interest in meeting with Greenfield and Frankestown Select Boards to explore matters of mutual interest and possible scenarios where joint endeavors could represent financial savings to all three communities.
- Reviewed an informative report from Twin Bridge Services regarding replacement of the Town Clerk computers and Town ownership of the Clerk’s computers. The Town Clerk’s aged computers were originally purchased by the State with grant monies which are no longer available. The advisory reports that the State Bureau of Registration, Division of Motor Vehicles has begun the process of retiring the existing dedicated Frame Relay connections and equipment. The associated costs to the Town to replace both computers is estimated at a cost of \$1,100 each computer (two) plus up to \$800 to implement and network the VPN (Virtual Private Network). This unanticipated expense will be discussed during a joint meeting with the Budget Committee and Department Heads on January 2nd.
- Declined the advertising offer put forth by Granite Quill Publishers Alliance, LLC.
- Reviewed Police Statistics for the month of November.
- Upon review of the following bids submitted for the construction of a precast culvert the Selectmen voted to authorize the Road Agent to pursue the low bidder (Michie Corporation) to ensure the Town’s interest will be adequately served:

➤ Concrete Systems, Inc.	\$50,172
➤ JAF Industries	\$48,518
➤ Michie Corporation	\$32,030
- Received texts of the proposed Zoning Ordinance changes.
- Signed the Oath of Office for Lester Milton’s November 28th appointment as a part-time police officer.
- Signed the Deputy Health Officer Appointment of Dario Carrara.
- Approved an Employee Time-Off Request form.

The meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Administrator