

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – March 6, 2013

Selectmen Steven Osienski, James Cleary and Jeffrey Rose were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

From 6:05 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Osienski, Cleary and Rose, Administrator French and Police Chief Steve Campbell. Communications, compensation and State Police coverage were discussed. It was agreed that the Selectmen prefer to pay “on-call” wages rather than depend on State Police coverage if staffing permits.

From 6:32 p.m. until 6:56 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Osienski, Cleary and Rose, Administrator French, LGC Risk Management representative Ronald O’Keefe, Fire Chief Michael Roina and Road Agent Gary Russell. The group discussed interactions and responsibilities of the Fire Department and Highway Department and the need for cohesiveness. No decisions were made.

From 6:57 p.m. until 7:10 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Osienski, Cleary and Rose, Administrator French, Fire Chief Michael Roina and Road Agent Gary Russell. The Selectmen confirmed their support that both Departments have contingency plans for back-up coverage in the event of an emergency situation.

From 7:53 p.m. until 8:15 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Osienski, Cleary and Rose as well as Administrator Denise French. The Selectmen continued discussion regarding Chief Campbell’s holiday compensation. The Board unanimously voted that full-time Police Officers will receive payment for ten holidays, eight hours each. The present arrangement only provided five hours holiday pay due to the FLSA which dictates over-time compensation after forty-three hours.

In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Reviewed and approved the Selectmen’s February 20, 2013 Minutes.
- Reviewed the Conservation Commission’s February 21, 2013 Minutes as well as the Zoning Board of Adjustment’s February 18, 2013 Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved the February 26 and March 6, 2013 Payroll Registers as well as the February 26, 2013 Accounts Payable Register.
- Discussed a minor motor vehicle accident that occurred earlier in the day on Onset Road when a motorist and Highway Department truck connected.
- Discussed with the Road Agent, Police Chief and Fire Chief problems associated with the two-way traffic pattern on Starrett Road due to detour of traffic away from the North Bennington/ Depot Street bridge closure. The Road Agent will seek permission to improve the signage that appears to be creating confusion.

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- At the recommendation of the Energy Committee the Board appointed Matthew Hackett a member of the Energy Committee.
- Heard a report that forty-four Abatement Applications were received by the March 1st deadline; thirty-two of which are from one uninhabited condominium complex, as well as the recently established utility values.
- Made minor corrections to the draft Voter's Guide before approving its release for mailing.
- Reviewed February Police Statistics.
- Asked for further information from Quantum Construction relative to their February 27th email regarding traffic control.
- Selectmen Osienski and Rose signed a Demolition Permit for M13/L1 as well as an Application for Current Use for M12/L44 combined with M13/L1.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Administrator