

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – March 20, 2013

Selectmen James Cleary, Jeffrey Rose and Steven Osienski were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Police Chief Steve Campbell met with the Board to continue discussion of options for repair/replacement of the Ford Expedition police cruiser. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously voted to purchase a new equipped replacement cruiser so long as the cost does not exceed current available funds in the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund and the Police Department budget. This vote takes into account the proposed acceptance of gifted police equipment of \$7,825 made possible by Bennington resident Keith Nason who is an employee of Code 3 – Public Safety Equipment. The Administrator will seek advice as to any requirement for a public hearing to accept the gift.

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

- Leave of absence arrangements
- Review of the Chief's first year of Fire Department leadership
- Highway Department employee status
- Roina was unanimously reappointed Fire Chief for the ensuing year
- Chief Roina will appoint Matthew Hall as Deputy Fire Chief. Chiefs Roina and Hall intend to appoint Adam Dunning as Captain, David Foster as 1st Lieutenant and Scott Plourde as 2nd Lieutenant.

From 8:03 p.m. until 8:23 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:311(c). Present were Selectmen Cleary, Rose and Osienski, Administrator French, David J. Desaulniers and David D. Desaulniers. The Selectmen voted to abate 2010 Tax Lien interest on M22/11C with the understanding the full tax value plus fees will be paid in full prior to June 1, 2013. The Selectmen also voted to retain M22/L11D in its inventory of tax deeded properties.

In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Reviewed and approved the Selectmen's March 13, 2013 Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved March 20, 2013 Payroll and Accounts Payable Registers.
- Heard a report that Town employees cannot raise funds for a designated purpose without setting up a Trust Fund since the action is not authorized by the voters. The Administrator will check with legal counsel to determine if Town employees can participate with "Friends of" fundraising.
- Appointed David Blanchard a member of the Conservation Commission for a three-year term.
- Voted to compensate all Town employees who are called into work outside of their designated schedule during an emergency situation for a minimum of two (2) hours at the overtime 1.5 hourly rate.
- Clarified the Town's Inclement Weather Policy to state that a Selectman, Chairperson if possible, will determine closure of Town business due to severe inclement weather.
- Voted to authorize the Code Enforcement Officer to also take on the role of Zoning Administrator.

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- Tabled response to the State’s announcement of the implementation of Emergency Notification System until the Board receives feedback from the Police Chief and the Fire Chief.
- Agreed that the Town Hall gymnasium must be organized by May 1st; the owner of the robotic equipment and supplies will be invited to meet with the Selectmen April 3rd.
- Selectman Cleary reported information gleaned from his visit to the VFW with a heating contractor. The Selectmen look forward to receiving the Energy and Building Committees respective Plan of Action for rehabilitating the VFW building.
- Voted not to meet March 27th.
- The Board reviewed and approved the following documents:
 - ✓ Two Employee Time-Off Request
 - ✓ Yield Tax – M19/L19
 - ✓ Report of Appropriations Actually Voted (MS-2)
 - ✓ Current Use Application – M12/L44 combined with M13/L1

The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Administrator