

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – October 30, 2013

Selectmen James Cleary, Jeffrey Rose and Steven Osienski were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

By invitation, Michael O'Hara met with the Selectmen to hear the surveyor's preliminary report that a cement wall at 4 Bible Hill Road was constructed with-in the Town's right-of-way and is an impediment to the upcoming reconstruction of the Antrim Road/Bible Hill/Eaton Avenue/Main Street intersection under the TEP2 grant program. Arrangements will be made for Mr. O'Hara to meet with the Town's engineering firm of Fay, Spofford & Thorndike prior to the November 7th 7:00 p.m. public meeting when the subject will likely come up in discussion.

Police Chief Steve Campbell met with the Board and discussed the following:

- Police Officer Bret Sullivan will begin his employment with the Town on November 4th. Chairman Cleary signed the Offer of Employment and the one-year Contract as of November 4th.
- Bennington Police Department is the recipient of a 50/50 grant to purchase personal protection vests at an approximate cost of \$1,300 to each agency.
- As a follow-up to the Board's October 28th meeting with the Antrim Selectman, Jim Cleary was appointed to be the Selectmen's representative to the police regionalization exploration committee which now consists of Selectman Cleary, Police Chief Campbell, Antrim Selectman Webber and Antrim Police Chief Lester. Chief Campbell was asked to establish a meeting date with Antrim Officials.

From 7:10 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Cleary, Rose and Osienski as well as Police Chief Steve Campbell who was present for his annual Employee Performance Review. No decisions were made.

From 7:31 p.m. until 7:45 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Cleary, Rose and Osienski as well as Fire Chief Mike Roina who was present for his requested Employee Performance Review. No decisions were made.

From 7:46 p.m. until 7:51 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c). Present were Selectmen Cleary, Rose and Osienski as well as Fire Chief Mike Roina and Administrator Denise French. No decisions were made.

Chief Roina discussed the following Fire Department matters with the Board:

- Received permission from the Board to overspend the building maintenance line-item to purchase wall paint for a volunteer community service project.
- Received authority from the Board to jointly purchase a \$400+/- base station radio with Monadnock Paper Mills' for the Mills' use with Town funds coming from the Emergency Management budget.
- Reported that the Rescue body has been repaired under a warranty claim.

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In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Reviewed and approved the Board's October 23, 2013 Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved Payroll Registers for October 23 and October 30, 2013 as well as the October 30, 2013 Accounts Payable Register.
- Heard a report that the August 28th MS-1 filed with the State did not include 2013 utility values which were not received until October 29 from George E. Sansoucy, PE, LLC. As a result the Board added \$1,219,200 in additional value to the Summary Inventory of Valuation Report (MS-1) and signed the revised Certification.
- Agreed with George E. Sansoucy, PE, LLC that value should be added to the M9/L21 assessment but deferred the Board's proposed \$1,500,000 increase in assessed value until receiving Town Counsel Bart Mayer's opinion.
- In response to an invitation from Hillsborough Selectmen to discuss the planned closing of the Hillsborough PSNH office, Selectmen Rose and Osienski agreed to attend the November 12th meeting.
- Agreed to allow the Daisy Scout Troop to use the VFW for their bi-monthly Monday afternoon meetings from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Confirmed the Administrator's decision that the Welfare Director should acquire the NH General Assistance Program software that will allow privileged access to other communities' welfare applicants to hopefully alleviate "double dipping" and the ability to track who is receiving assistance and where. Beginning with calendar year 2015 the annual cost is estimated to be less than \$100.
- Heard a report that an abutter to Whittemore Beach Road has requested that the Town plow the access road this winter. Town Officials will meet with Fish & Game Officials to discuss the matter before any decision is made.

From 8:30 p.m. until 8:45 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Cleary, Rose and Osienski as well as Administrator Denise French who was present for her annual Employee Performance Review. No decisions were made.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Administrator

