

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – December 9, 2013

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

By invitation from the Selectmen, Eaton Avenue residents James Griswold Jr., James Griswold III, Shelley Wing, Scott Griswold, Douglas Mooney and Sara Davis met with the Board to discuss conceptual plans derived from the previous evening's TEP2 Public Hearing that could affect the Eaton Avenue traffic pattern. Road Agent Gary Russell also participated in the lively discussion which culminated with the one-way traffic pattern concept being taken off the table. The Selectmen voted to recommend to the Town's engineers that they strive to provide the "Road Edge Definition" as noted in the October 30, 2007 Public Meeting for TEP1 as the Town's choice for improving the Antrim Road, Bible Hill Road, Eaton Avenue and Main Street intersection.

Rose Melanson inquired about the need for the "Balch Farm" gate's granite post to be removed since the granite post represents yesteryear. The Selectmen and Road Agent agreed not to remove the second granite post until after the group has an opportunity to look at its condition in the spring. The Road Agent also reported that when the first post was gently removed it broke in the middle.

In other matters the Selectmen took the following action:

- Asked the Administrator to research the requirements for altering the speed zone on Town roads; earlier in the evening there was conceptual discussion on lowering the Eaton Avenue speed limit.
- Heard a report from the Road Agent that the Sidewalk Maintenance Contract stipulates snow removal from sidewalks upon an inch of snow accumulation. He will deliver the Contract with this verbiage to the Administrator.
- Agreed to send a blanket notice to all drivers of town-owned vehicles/equipment that driver safety is paramount to everyone's safety, as well as adherence to the Personnel Policy.
- Noting that only two Revaluation Proposals were received, it was agreed to notify the highest bidder that, unless a more realistic quote is received within the week, the Town will have no choice but to award the bid to the lowest bidder

The meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Denise French  
Administrator