

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – May 6, 2014

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

From 6:01 p.m. until 6:40 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Cleary and Osienski as well as Walter Kiblin. The Selectmen voted a policy decision for employees who were hired prior to May 16, 2007 when the Personnel Policy was last updated and vacation compensation was changed. With regard to the Length of Earned Vacation / Years of Continuous Service, the Selectmen voted a one-time change for the employee to choose which vacation policy they wish to be covered by - the policy in effect prior to May 16, 2007 or the current Personnel Policy. This policy decision will affect approximately five employees.

Fire Chief Michael Roina met with the Selectmen to continue discussion regarding compensation for the Chiefs and employees of the Fire Department. These ongoing recent discussions are a result of complying with existing labor laws.

The Selectmen took action on the following matters:

- Reviewed and approved the Selectmen's April 30, 2014 Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved the May 6, 2014 Payroll and Accounts Payable Registers. Also reviewed were expenditures for the period January through April, 2014.
- Asked that a disgruntled Transfer Station patron be invited to meet with the Selectmen.
- Heard another report that the manager of M13/L14 (which now encompasses Lot 15, Lot 16, Lot 17 and thirty-two condominiums as well as a former commercial building) expects the Town to reduce their property assessments back to 2001 due to administrative errors. The Selectmen confirmed the Town's position that abatements have been approved when supporting documentation was in place to support a change in assessment. The Selectmen reiterated their stances that, other than the 2013 Abatement Application currently under review, no abatement of prior assessments or real estate taxes are warranted.
- Topics for the upcoming Spring Newsletter will likely include the development of a Police Chief recruitment committee, culvert replacement project, revaluation update, additional Town Clerk services, Free Recycle Day, Town-wide yard sale, Bruce Edes walk, VFW renovation plan, TEP2 and the need for volunteers.
- Reviewed April Police Statistics.
- Re-signed two Yield Tax Levys to reflect the Trust ownership for M5/L2 and M6/L6 as well as M11/L16.

The meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French  
Administrator