

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – August 6, 2014

Selectmen Steven Osienski and Jeffrey Rose were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m.

Deputy Administrator Kristie LaPlante met with the Board and discussed the following:

- Access to Whittimore Lake. In 1942 the “access to public waters” was approved by the State and funded 1/3 by the Town and 2/3 by the State. Although intended and prescribed by law, the road (14% pitch) was never turned over to the Town. It is likely the Governor and Council will take action to now give the road to the Town. It will be up to the Town to establish the road’s classification and name. The Board tabled taking action due to the absence of Selectman Cleary.
- Delivery of weekly timecards by the Monday 12:00 p.m. deadline is increasingly problematic and affects an ACH Tuesday afternoon deadline that is not negotiable. The Selectmen will meet with the Town Clerk and the Fire Chief to discuss this situation.

From 6:55 p.m. until 7:02 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c ). Present were Selectmen Osienski and Rose as well as Administrator French and Deputy Administrator LaPlante. Discussed was a recent inquiry made of a Town Official about the residency of a specific elected official. The Selectmen voted to ask the Moderator to pursue indisputable validation of the official’s residency.

Police Chief Steve Campbell met with the Selectmen and Joseph O’Brien to discuss his concern and observations that the existing security system does not seem to be protecting the building as well as it should be. The Selectmen voted to install two additional key pads. Mr. O’Brien committed to promptly installing a security plate on an interior door. Joe also reported that the Fire Department’s security alarm system is not adequately being monitored due to an equipment issue at the monitoring site located at Southwest Fire Mutual Aid Dispatch Center.

Holly Mecheski met with the Selectmen to share an agricultural grant incentive that the State is promoting which would provide funds for fertilizer. While Mrs. Mecheski was present the Selectmen inquired about expanded activities taking place at M16/L9 which appear to be beyond the Planning Board’s approved Site Plan Review. The Selectmen referred the family to the Planning Board.

Police Chief Steve Campbell also discussed the following matters with the Selectmen:

- His anticipated May 1<sup>st</sup> retirement and the Board’s intent to receive input from a citizen advisory committee. The Selectmen appreciated receiving Steve’s valued input as to topics that should be considered by the Town before advertising the planned vacancy.
- Police Detail Policy. Upon review of area Police Department Police Detail Policies the Selectmen agreed that Bennington should charge \$65 an hour for the Officer’s wage and \$10 for the use of the cruiser. From the \$65 an hour wage, which is paid by the vendor requiring police coverage, the Town assesses a 29.90% payroll/administrative fee which includes reimbursement of NH Retirement and other mandated payroll expenses.

Board of Selectmen Minutes – August 6, 2014

The Selectmen took action of the following matters:

- Reviewed and approved the Selectmen's July 23, 2014 Minutes. The Board also reviewed Trustee of the Trust Funds Minutes for July 24 and July 31, 2014.
- Reviewed and approved Payroll Registers for July 30 and August 6, 2014 as well as the Accounts Payable Register for August 6, 2014.
- Heard a report that the Town of Antrim updated the posted bridge load sign to E-2 for the Arch bridge. This action negates their earlier requirement that Bennington's Bible Hill Road culvert replacement contractor would need to provide bonds and inspections before they could move their equipment across Antrim's recently rebuilt Arch bridge.
- Reviewed July Police Statistics as well as the Conval District Study Committee Agenda.
- Signed two PSNH Petition and Pole Licenses and an Employee Time-off Request Form.

The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French  
Administrator