

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – February 26, 2015

Selectmen James Cleary, Jeffrey Rose and Steven Osienski were present as well as Administrator Denise French.

The following Tri-Town Landfill Committee representatives met to continue discussion on excavation matters: Antrim – Selectmen Michael Genest, John Robinson and Gordon Webber as well as Administrator Donna Hanson; Francestown – Selectpersons Abigail Arnold and Scott Carbee as well as Administrator Michael Bramley and Road Agent Gary Paige; Bennington – Selectmen James Cleary, Steven Osienski and Jeffrey Rose as well as Administrator Denise French and Road Agent Gary Russell.

The following Tri-Town excavation matters were discussed:

- Road Agent Gary Russell discussed the Goggle Map on which he had plotted four excavation phases based upon in-ground material; the original map was laid out according to size. Antrim, Bennington and Francestown Road Agents all agree with Russell’s proposed excavation phases.
- Temporary flags mark the proposed boundaries until such time as the Tri-Town Landfill Committee approves the locations. Once approved, the map lines will be transferred to permanent markers.
- Within the next couple of years the three Road Agents plan to build a new road into the pit area.
- Originally the excavation site was estimated to be one million yards of material based upon core drilling and a matrix chart. In reality, the group estimates that the quantity of one million yards of material is under-estimated.
- Phase I, as proposed, has the biggest esker and is estimated to have material available for another five to seven years.
- The Excavation Agreement provides that both the towns of Antrim and Bennington are eligible to use 40% of available material; Francestown is eligible to use 20% of the available material.
- Reiterated the importance of each community tracking their bank-run gravel usage and reporting the usage to the Bennington Road Agent.
- Bennington Road Agent Gary Russell reported the following processed material was excavated from 1994 to 2013:

➤ Antrim	77,750
➤ Bennington	40,194
➤ Francestown	121,637
- Antrim and Bennington Selectmen are concerned that Francestown has excavated the most material while only eligible to remove 20%.
- Francestown Selectmen acknowledge their high usage and are willing to pay for excessive removal of material.
- It was mutually agreed by all three Towns that their Road Agents will meet to discuss conceptual ways that the cost of material can be determined.
- Prior to the July 11th Tri-Town Landfill Committee’s follow-up meeting at 9:00 a.m., reconciliation of usage from 1999 to date will need to be determined by the Road Agents and a tentative in-ground cost developed.

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From 7:12 p.m. until 7:24 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(c). Present were Selectmen Cleary, Rose and Osienski as well as Thomas Belcher. The group discussed the February 11th Monadnock Ledger article where David Blumenthal misrepresented information gleaned from the Deputy Administrator which cast a shadow on former employees. Mr. Belcher was assured that the Selectmen do in fact value its volunteers and employees. A copy of the Selectmen's Letter to the Editor was shared. No decisions were made.

From 7:34 p.m. until 7:58 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(b). Present were Selectmen Cleary, Rose and Osienski as well as Administrator French and Fire Chief Michael Roina. The Selectmen authorized the Chief to begin the employment process for former employee Keith Nason.

The Selectmen voted to hire Wayne Frye to fill the Transfer Station vacancy. The Selectmen voted that time for opening and closing of the Transfer Station will be staggered between the two employees which will likely lead to a decrease in budgeted wages.

The Selectmen took action on the following matters:

- Reviewed and approved Selectmen Minutes for February 17, February 18 and February 19, 2015.
- Reviewed the Building and Energy Committees' February 4, 2015 Minutes.
- Approved a draft letter to Editor Ben Conant of the Monadnock Ledger-Transcript.
- Approved a draft letter to the Monadnock Ledger-Transcript Editor for publication.
- Approved a draft written response to Monadnock Ledger-Transcript Reporter David Blumenthal re: Police Chief transitions.
- Approved a draft Press Release re: Officer Bret Sullivan's promotion to Police Chief.
- Received, with appreciation, a message of gratitude for the professional interactions of Fire Department personnel during a property owner's recent time of need.
- Read, with interest, a February 24th Monadnock Ledger-Transcript article about a prospective purchaser of the former St. Patrick's Church and their revitalization plan.
- Reviewed and approved an amended Tax Payment Agreement for M7/L83.
- Reviewed and approved a Building Permit for M20/L7.

The meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise French
Administrator