

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – February 17, 2016

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.

Fire Chief Michael Roina met with the Selectmen and discussed the following:

- Development of a Fire Department Attendance Policy. The purpose of the policy is to set forth minimum requirements for Fire Department employees. The Selectmen supported the Policy as presented; the document will be forwarded to Town Counsel for review and comment before its implementation.
- Reviewed the synopsis of the Fire Science Proposal that Conval's Education Committee is considering as an addition to the Applied Technology Center. If approved, the program would add Firefighter 1 and EMT-Basic to the school curriculum and initially be paid from grants. The Selectmen and Fire Chief unanimously support the Fire Science Proposal.
- Heard a report that a 100' length of hose failed at a recent fire. The topic lead to a lively conversation on the merits of bi-annual hose testing at a cost of \$1,500 by an outside vendor versus using the hose testing funds to replace older worn hose on a bi-annual basis, or sooner if needed. No decision was made.
- As an employee of the Town wearing many hats, the Selectmen extended their gratitude and appreciation to Mike for taking on the responsibility of Town Hall maintenance over the past few days when the furnace failed, pipes froze and subsequently an abandoned water line in the supply closet burst which lead to another round of furnace, plumbing, electrical issues along with prolonged phone disruption in the administrative office.
- Discussed janitorial responsibilities; the Selectmen will review the existing contract.

From 6:51 p.m. until 6:55 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 French. No decisions were made.

The Selectmen acted on the following matters:

- Selectmen Cleary and Rose reviewed and approved the Selectmen's January 13, 2016 Minutes.
- Selectmen Osienski and Rose reviewed and approved the Selectmen's January 27, 2016 Minutes.
- Selectmen Cleary, Rose and Osienski reviewed and approved the Selectmen's February 3, 2016 Minutes. The Board reviewed the Energy Committee's February 10, 2016 Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved February 10, 2016 Payroll and Accounts Payable Registers as well as the February 17, 2016 Payroll Register.
- Based upon receipt of updated information, the Selectmen voted to unmerge a fifteen acre parcel of land from M19/L21. This decision was made under the authority of RSA 674:39-aa.
- Heard a report that the owner of M1/L2 is scheduled to meet with the Planning Board at their February 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting to discuss the long overdue need for Site Plan Review and approval.

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- Heard a report that the owner of M17/L30 has responded to the Code Officer's directive to remove excess vehicles; the owner reported the remainder of the vehicles should be removed by summer.
- Approved content of the revised *Nonbinding Referendum Regarding the VFW Building which is Owned by the Town*. The Referendum will be forwarded to the Town Clerk for inclusion with the distribution of March 8, 2016 ballot materials.
- Accepted an offer from Jim Craig Electric, LLC to install additional lighting and outlets at Town Hall. The material cost to the Town is \$445; labor will be provided without cost.
- Received notice from the Department of Revenue Administration that the median ratio for the land, buildings and manufactured housing for Tax Year 2015 to be 99.5%.
- Voted to request from NHMA the Town's legal files that are older than January 2010 be returned to the Board of Selectmen. This action is in response to NHMA's February 1<sup>st</sup> inquiry.
- Received a report from Eversource that their vegetation maintenance of their distribution right-of-way system includes the length of Bible Hill Road and Route 31.
- Approved a Veteran's Tax Credit for the owner of M23/L6.

The meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Denise French  
Administrator