

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – September 28, 2016

Selectmen James Cleary, Jeffrey Rose and Steven Osienski were present as well as Administrator Denise French. Also attending the meeting, which was called to order at 6:05 p.m., was Bethany Craig.

The Selectmen acted on the following matters:

- Reviewed and approved the Board's September 14, 2016 Minutes; also reviewed Conservation Commission Minutes for August 18 and September 15, 2016.
- Reviewed and approved Payroll Registers for September 21 and 28, 2016 as well as the Accounts Payable Register for September 28, 2016.
- Selectman Osienski volunteered to discuss the Fire Chief's proposed Attendance Policy with the Department's membership at their October 4th meeting. The Chief submitted the proposed Policy to the Board at their August 17, 2016 meeting; no decisions were made at that time.
- Heard a report that establishment of a Revolving Fund can only be done at a Town Meeting by the legislative body; the Selectmen have no authority in establishing Revolving Funds. The Selectmen instructed the Administrator to gather further background information for consideration. No decision was made.
- Declined the Cemetery Trustees' invitation to meet at their October 4th meeting to discuss a grievance verbally alleged by a Trustee against a property owner. It is the Selectmen's understanding that the property owner has satisfied the aggrieved Trustee's concerns.
- The Selectmen voted their final acceptance of the TEP2 construction project; all punch list items have been addressed from the final project inspection conducted by Robert Hudson, NHDOT Project Manager, Town Officials, North East Earth Mechanics representatives and Stantec representatives. Chairman Cleary signed the Certificate of Final Completion of Work as well as a letter to North East Earth Mechanics President James Locke II notifying them that the project is now turned over to the Town for maintenance.
- Received notice that the Conval School District will return a surplus of \$1,066,833 to the Towns. Also received by the Board was a Conval High School Preliminary Proposal which focuses on long-term capital improvement renovations at the High School which will be the object of a bond proposal in 2018.
- Resolved to accept the offer of the NH Public Risk Management Exchange (Primex) to enter into its Property & Liability Contribution Assurance Program (CAP) to be contractually bound to all of the terms and conditions of Primex risk management pool membership during the term of the CAP. For the next two coverage years the Town agrees to a maximum nine percent (9%) increase. On behalf of the Board, Selectman Rose signed the associated documents.
- Reviewed and conceptually approved the proposed Independent Contractual Agreement between the Conservation Commission and Moosewood Ecological LLC for the development of basic Natural Resource Inventory maps, as authorized at the 2016 Town Meeting. Upon receiving recommendation from the Conservation Commission the Selectmen are prepared to sign the contract.

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- Discussed VFW building conditions, and for lack of volunteer time, the Board tabled commencement of renovations until 2017.
- Reviewed exterior conditions at the fire station and agreed that the vertical corners of the brick façade need to be pointed up. Of greater concern is the distressed retaining wall on the right side of the building. While obtaining estimates for the contract work the Selectmen will also get a proposal for rehabilitating the ramp at Town Hall. Also planned, at the fire station, is the addition of attic insulation; the replacement roof should be finished by late October.
- Tabled execution of a Land Use Change Tax for M15/L6-3 pending clarification of supporting background information.
- Signed Utility Tax Abatements for M7/L87-HPTL, M9/L21-HPTL and M10/L08-HPTL and Building Permits for M7/L76, M7/L96 and M7/L107.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Denise French
Administrator