

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – March 13, 2017

Selectmen James Cleary and Jeffrey Rose were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 6:25 p.m.

The Administrator received a March 8, 2017 resignation from Michael Roina who terminated his employment from all Town of Bennington positions at noon on March 8, 2017.

The Administrator received the March 12, 2017 resignation from Adam Dunning who terminated his employment from Bennington Fire-Rescue as of March 12, 2017 at 11:59 p.m.

Assistant Fire Chief Matthew Hall has agreed to serve as Officer in Charge for the short term.

From 6:35 p.m. until 7:27 p.m. the Selectmen met in Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3II(a). Present were Selectmen Cleary and Rose as well as Administrator French. The group discussed Fire Department and Highway Department vacancies and staffing. With regard to the Fire Department the Selectmen voted:

- To table enforcement of the Attendance Policy
- Concurred with Chief's Hall appointment of Keith Nason as Deputy Chief
- Concurred with Matt's choice to leave the Captain position vacant
- Concurred with Matt's reaffirming of Dave Foster as Lieutenant
- Since it has been less than a year since his departure, agreed to re-employ Damon Beaudreau as an emergency hire pending receipt of a favorable background check
- Agreed that during the Fire Department's restructuring period it would be unwise to hire new staff
- Agreed that the Selectmen should reach out to their Antrim counterparts and inquire if a shared opportunity might exist to shore up the Bennington Fire Department, whose staffing level has dipped to eight employees
- With regard to the Highway Department the Selectmen will meet with the Road Agent at their March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting to discuss skills, aptitude and proposed work schedule to fill the existing vacancy. The Selectmen voted an emergency hire of Francis McMahan as an as-needed employee pending receipt of a favorable background check.

The Board received notice that Moderator John Cronin has postponed the March 14, 2017 Town Meeting in order to ensure safe travel for all citizens and election workers during the forecasted winter storm slated to begin early in the day. The Town Meeting has been rescheduled to Thursday, March 16, 2017 at Pierce School from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The postponement has been widely advertised on the television, social media, local postings and included in the Conval Superintendent's phone message announcing the March 14<sup>th</sup> storm related school closures.

The meeting adjourned at 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Denise French  
Administrator