

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – August 9, 2017

Selectmen Jeffrey Rose and Mark Mackesy were present as well as Administrator Denise French; Selectman James Cleary was absent with notice. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

Chris Davies, Highway Department representative, met with the Selectmen to explore their interest in issuing Highway Department and Transfer Station employees work shirts which identify them as Town employees. The Selectmen agreed it made good sense for personnel to be easily identifiable to the public. The Administrator will facilitate the purchase.

From 6:50 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. the Selectmen held a Public Hearing to formally accept unanticipated monies of \$37,913.09 from a dedicated grant fund for Highway Block Grant Aid lump sum payment, in accordance with SB38. The Hearing was duly noticed in the Monadnock Ledger-Transcript's August 1st edition, as well as the Town's website and postings at Town Hall and the Library. The grant is non-lapsing; the unused balance may be carried over to the following municipal fiscal year and expended for highway construction, reconstruction or maintenance purposes. The Selectmen unanimously voted to accept the funds.

Water/Sewer Commissioner David Beck met with the Selectmen to provide an overview of summer activities:

- Information gathering for the establishment of an Asset Management Program which includes visiting the Town of Peterborough and communications with Southwest Region Planning Commission.
- The need for infrastructure planning.
- This is the final year for constructing the Eaton Avenue loop; work is currently underway; the whole project is estimated to cost \$80,000. Commissioner Beck was surprised the Selectmen were not involved in the decision to undertake the project and associated financing.

The Selectmen took action on the following matters:

- Reviewed and approved the Board's July 26, 2017 Minutes. Reviewed Minutes from the Water/Sewer Commissioners' June 5 and July 10, 2017 meetings; the Budget Committee's July 11, 2017 meeting; and the Energy Committee's August 2, 2017 meeting.
- Reviewed and approved Payroll and Accounts Payable Registers for August 3 and August 10, 2017. Also reviewed were 2017 expenses through August 4th.
- Tabled further review and street lighting decisions until the full Board is present.
- Slightly modified and approved a Letter to the Editor regarding the Selectmen's response to the unprofessional actions which have occurred at meetings of the Zoning Board of Adjustment; specifically the behavior of member Sam Cohen.
- Discussed the lack of crosswalk designation at the Monadnock Paper Mill on Antrim Road as well as the need to repaint roadway messages on School Street and Main Street. The matter will be discussed with the Road Agent.

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- Heard a report that the background check of a potential new hire, part-time police officer should be completed by August 16th at which time the Selectmen will likely swear them in.
- Voted the establishment of a Single Trade Building Permit Application for electrical, plumbing & gas fitting projects which don't include structural alterations. The Permit, signed only by the Code Officer, will expedite approval to the applicant.
- Heard a report that the Town's loader was vandalized over the weekend; the extent of damage is unknown since the Road Agent hasn't had time to look at the vehicle.
- Rescheduled an informational meeting with an architect to August 16th when the full Board is present; tentatively scheduled September 6th as a meeting date with the Budget Committee.
- Signed their approval to an Intent to Cut for M20/L10, an Electrical Permit for M10/L52, and an Electrical Permit for M22/L11-A.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Denise French
Administrator