

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – August 16, 2017

Selectmen James Cleary, Jeffrey Rose and Mark Mackesy were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. Also attending the meeting was Peter Martel.

The Selectmen continued their review and discussion of the Street Lighting Project. Peter Martel requested permission to share new information that he had gathered which he felt could be helpful to the Board when making their final decisions. The Selectmen felt they had received enough information gleaned by the Energy Committee and through the public hearing process. Mr. Martel felt disrespected by Selectman Mackesy's comments and chose to record the Board's conversations throughout their street lighting review and discussions. The number index that was used for discussion are the numbers attached to the July 26, 2017 Street Lighting Proposal that was mailed to all Bennington residents and those with an 03442 address in advance of the Public Hearing. The Selectmen voted the following decisions:

- Keep – 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 26, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 39, 43, 44, 46, 47, 51, 52
- Discontinue – 1, 12, 15, 18, 20, 22, 24, 27, 28, 34, 37, 41
- Convert Light to Motion Detectors? – 9, 45
- New – 48, 50, 53
- No fixtures – 5, 49
- Special Consideration – lights 40 and 42 are across from each other at the Route 202/Pierce Hill intersection. Can the Town turn a fixture and extend the lighting more into the intersection and remove the other fixture?

Police Chief Bret Sullivan met with the Selectmen to discuss a pre-employment background check for Zachary Letourneau. Motion was made, seconded and voted to hire Zachary Letourneau as a part-time Police Officer. Chairman Cleary administered the Oath of Office.

Architect Michael Petrovick met with the Selectmen, Police Chief and Administrator by invitation to conceptually discuss expansion of work space within the confines of the Town Hall building. Also attending this portion of the meeting was David Beck. After discussion it was agreed that the Selectmen would enter into a contract with Mr. Petrovick for creation of a Feasibility Study which will identify deficiencies, needs and functionality of Town Hall at an estimated cost of \$7,500 - \$10,000. From this Study the Town should be able to determine usable space and develop a plan to enhance work space for the Police Department, Administration and Town Clerk's Office.

The Selectmen took action on the following matters:

- Reviewed and approved the Board's August 9, 2017 Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved the Payroll and Accounts Payable Registers for August 17, 2017.
- Voted to hire Gary Webber to refurbish the Town Hall concrete ramp at an estimated cost of \$912.00.

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- Discussed the need to complete the crosswalk markings on Antrim Road and freshen up roadway verbiage for “School” and “Bump”. NHDOT will be consulted about their annual roadway painting/marketing plans. Whatever DOT doesn’t cover the Town will promptly arrange to have done.
- Endorsed Peter Martel’s request that the Town support his participation in the Construction Energy Management course at Lakes Region Community College. This training opportunity is being provided by Eversource without cost to the Town of Bennington.
- Agreed to provide a letter of support, as requested by the NH Liquor Commission, for Crotched Mountain Ski and Ride Area to provide a beer tent outside of their facility during the weekend festivities they are hosting for the Hampshire 100 bike race.
- Reviewed Town owned property which could be subject to sealed bid auction. The majority of vacant land is situated on a Class VI road where the lot has been deemed unbuildable. The Selectmen requested that the inventory of possible sale lots be forwarded to the Conservation Commission for their input.
- In order to clear title on M11/L9, the Selectmen signed an abatement of tax for 1986 and 1987 tax liens which were previously paid but their redemptions not recorded at the Registry of Deeds.
- Chairman Cleary signed page 4 of 5 of the Health Trust Membership Agreement. The remainder of signatures was secured June 28th.
- Agreed that No Truck signage should be installed in the center of Town as another attempt to catch the eye of truck drivers traveling towards the railroad trestle and needing to turn around on private property to reroute to Route 202.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Denise French
Administrator