

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – September 27, 2017

Selectmen James Cleary, Jeffrey Rose and Mark Mackesy were present as well as Administrator Denise French. The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

Town Clerk Debra Belcher met with the Selectmen to discuss her interest in upgrading services to include online options for registration renewals, vital statistics and dog registrations. Not only will services be enhanced but there will be a bit of a financial offset since the Town Clerk's office will no longer need to pay the State of NH for motor vehicle reminders as well as the ability to eliminate the continual purchases of the Red Book which is now needed to reference motor vehicle information at the time of registration. The Selectmen unanimously endorsed Deb's proposal and the associated annual cost of \$300 for Interware Development to provide the enhanced services.

Susan and Michael Smith met with the Selectmen to continue discussion of the ongoing need to provide Bennington residents an environmentally safe method for disposing of hazardous waste. The Selectmen will research alternatives for the upcoming year and discuss funding with the Budget Committee. The Administrator agreed to have a link put on the Transfer Station website that will allow the viewer to access information from the regional Recycling Center in Keene.

The Comcast Cable Franchise Renewal Hearing was canceled due to the absence of representation from Comcast Officials.

The Selectmen acted on the following matters:

- Reviewed and approved the Board's September 20, 2017 Minutes.
- Reviewed and approved the September 28, 2017 Payroll and Accounts Payable Registers.
- Heard a complaint that new signage was deemed inadequate in size by a resident; the Selectmen looked at the Acre Street "No Truck" sign and agreed that a second 24" x 24" sign should be erected at the Acre/School Street intersection. The Board looked at the new "No Trucks Antrim Road" and the green arrow sign beneath it "Trucks – Route 202" and agreed to continue discussion on this lingering problem at their October 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Agreed that Administrative staff should attend the Road Maintenance 101 class to learn of numerous aspects of road maintenance to help municipal leaders make the most fiscally responsible and beneficial decisions for the Town.
- Heard a report that the Cemetery Trustees encountered an uncooperative family member who made their own arrangements for burial of cremains at the Evergreen Cemetery. Both the family member and the person hired to open the grave were personally informed of the Rules and Regulations that the Cemetery Trustees are charged with enforcing; both individuals chose not to work with the Trustees nor file the required documentation associated with the burial. The Trustees will be revisiting the current Rules and Regulations with an eye towards gaining authoritative control and repercussions to those who choose to willingly violate the Regulations.
- The Selectmen looked at the Town Hall gymnasium and were pleased to note its well kept appearance by those groups using the facility. The Board did note the stained tin ceiling and walls on the east side of the room; there did not appear to be any signs of wetness on the floor. Staff will monitor the room during heavy rain storms.
- Signed a Building Permit for M3/L6.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise French, Administrator