

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – November 29, 2017

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

Architect Michael Petrovick met with the Selectmen, Administrator, Chief Bret Sullivan and Sergeant Jason LePine to present three conceptual schemes for realignment of administrative and police office space ahead of the planned December 13th public meeting.

The Selectmen took action on the following matters:

- Reviewed and approved the Selectmen's November 15, 2017 Minutes.
- Received Conval Selectmen's Advisory Committee Minutes for October 26, 2017, Strategic Plan Committee Minutes for November 9th and the Selectmen's Advisory Committee Agenda for the November 30, 2017 meeting.
- Reviewed and approved the November 22 and November 30, 2017 Payroll and Accounts Payable Registers.
- Heard the Administrator's report that Eversource has not been able to identify costs associated with repairing/maintaining seven of their fixtures which are out of service. French reported that as soon as Eversource has completed their review of the LED retrofit project the vendor is prepared to order the equipment with full installation being completed within sixty days. The Selectmen voted not to schedule repairs for the outages of existing metal halide lights.
- Reversed the Board's November 15th decision to table the asset management grant request for one year rather than try to fund a Water Department Capital Reserve Fund whose use is subject to change. At the recommendation of the Water Commissioners the Selectmen voted to include a standalone 2018 Warrant Article that will request an appropriation for the development of an asset management program specific to the Water Department.
- Discussed wages and benefits with Bret Sullivan and Jason LePine; specifically the value of 100% Town sponsored health insurance. This benefit continues to be the reason of why they individually were able to each take a significant pay cut for Bennington employment. The Selectmen tabled their decision for 2018 funding of wages and benefits until the full Board is present.
- Tabled scheduling a kickoff meeting for the Road Surface Management System plan until all participants are identified.
- Accepted the Energy Committee's offer to study the feasibility of developing solar energy for the Town's buildings.
- Reviewed the Department of Transportation's Bridge Inspection Report for Town of Bennington Bridge 095/093 on Antrim Road over the Monadnock Mill canal which now identifies this as a Red List Bridge. The Selectmen will explore the Town's options and continue discussion at their next meeting.
- Received, with regret, the resignation of Stephen Willette from the Conservation Commission.
- Based upon past payment history, the Selectmen voted to abate a \$50 Inventory Penalty assessed to M2/L3-11.

- Tentatively scheduled December 20th as a 2018 Budget review date with the Budget Committee and Department Heads.
- Signed Property Tax Warrants for second issue tax invoices.
- Signed an Intent to Cut for M3/L17 as well as a Building Permit for M11/L3A.

The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Denise French
Administrator