

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – April 3, 2019

Selectmen James Cleary, David Hardwick, Sr., and Mark Mackesy were present as well as Town Administrator Kristie LaPlante. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

Rhubarb Festival members Bethany Craig and Tom James met with the Selectmen to discuss their plans for locating a 12' x 16' performance stage at Sawyer Park. The revised plan calls for the stage to be situated in the back right of the property (as you look at it from the road); Jim Craig Electric will donate their time to extend electrical service to the stage and the Town will purchase the materials at a cost not to exceed \$600. The Selectmen approved the location (pending abutter notification) and requested a Building Permit be submitted for transparency.

Cemetery Trustee Chair Karen Belcher met with the Selectmen to discuss a recent inquiry from George Chicoine Enterprises about mowing the Town's Cemeteries. An August 2018 public notice requesting bids for Cemetery Mowing only received one response for a substantially higher price than the expiring contract; earlier this year the Selectmen and Cemetery Trustees agreed to revisit the matter in the spring. Karen will discuss the proposal with the Cemetery Trustees at their April 9th meeting but wanted to keep the Selectmen updated before any alternative plans were discussed. The Selectmen will meet with Mr. Chicoine and the Cemetery Trustees prior to execution of a contract.

The Selectmen reviewed correspondence from the David A. Glynn Trust informing the Town that they are the recipient of a partial distribution of the Glynn Estate. Mr. Glynn's Estate has gifted the Town of Bennington \$250,000 to be administered by the Selectmen for improvements and maintenance of the Town Hall and other historical buildings in Bennington. As part of the gift, Mr. Glynn stipulates that installation of an elevator and sprinkler system at Town Hall are a first priority. Mr. Glynn's Estate also gifted the Town of Bennington \$75,000 to be used for the preservation and beautification of the Civil War Monument. The Selectmen will schedule a Public Hearing in accordance with RSA 31:95-b before the funds are formally accepted.

In preparation of their April 10th meeting, the Selectmen reviewed maps and meeting minutes from 2015 and 2016 relative to the Tri-Town Landfill and the history of gravel consumption. The Selectmen would like each community to provide updated Gravel Removal reports from 2014 through 2018.

At 7:14 p.m. a motion was made by Selectman Cleary to enter into Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3-II(c) and seconded by Selectman Mackesy; all voted in favor of entering Nonpublic Session. Also present during the Nonpublic Session was Town Administrator Kristie LaPlante. The Selectmen reviewed correspondence from an employee's medical provider and approved the employee's return to work as of April 4, 2019. Selectman Cleary made a motion to reconvene the Public Session; seconded by Selectman Mackesy; all voted to reconvene the Public Session at 7:30 p.m.

In other items on their Agenda, the Selectmen took the following action:

- Reviewed and approved the Minutes of the Board's March 20, 2019 meeting.
- Reviewed the Payroll and Accounts Payable Registers for March 28 and April 4, 2019.

- Heard a report that the Town’s insurance provider, Primex, has awarded partial funds for the fire damage to the Loader. The Adjuster has requested additional documentation from Richardson Heavy Equipment if certain components in his estimate are found to be damaged.
- Heard a report that the hazardous structure at Map 7, Lot 31 has been partially remedied; the property owner is currently working to remove the debris and other refuse.
- The Selectmen received a verbal communication from Linda Quintanilha, the Town’s School Board Representative with an offer to meet to discuss Conval’s recent Education Funding lawsuit. The Selectmen will invite her in at a future meeting to discuss Conval funding.
- Authorized the Town Administrator to receive quotes for Long-Term Disability, Vision Care, and Life Insurance based on two recent offerings from the Town’s insurance carriers.
- Heard a report that the 2019 Household Hazardous Waste Day is scheduled for May 11, 2019 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Hillsborough Deering Middle School.
- Authorized the Town Administrator to offer conditional employment to John Kendall for the position of Building Inspector, pending receipt of his background check.
- The Selectmen reviewed and approved the following:
 - 2018 Equalization Data Certificate
 - Elderly Exemption for Map 23, Lot 28
 - Veteran’s Tax Credit for Map 8, Lot 10
 - 2019 Report of Appropriations Actually Voted
 - Intents to Excavate for Map 11/Lot 12, Map 3/Lot 1, and Map 11/Lot 16
 - Gravel Tax Levy for Maps 11/Lot 16 and Map 3/Lot 1
 - Proposal for Installation of Landfill Gas Monitoring Wells at the Tri-Town Landfill.
- The Selectmen reviewed and denied an Elderly Exemption for Map 7, Lot 4 based on income requirements.

There being no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristie LaPlante