

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – May 21, 2019

Selectmen David Hardwick, Sr. and Mark Mackesy were present as well as Town Administrator Kristie LaPlante. The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

The Selectmen reviewed the Minutes of the May 7, 2019 meeting and approved them as presented. Town Administrator Kristie LaPlante reported delivering the new schedule and status report requirement to the Road Agent on May 8th; Selectman Jim Cleary also met with the Road Agent at/about May 10th and informed him of the same. The Selectmen were discouraged to learn that the Highway Department work schedule for the week of May 20th was not prepared by the Road Agent and posted as required and that an after action report of work completed the prior week was not completed.

Damon Beaudreau, in his capacity of firefighter, met with the Selectmen and expressed his gratitude for the cooperation from Town Departments at a technical rescue type emergency earlier in the day. He also noted that Chris Davies has been extremely helpful with several lift assist emergency calls during the day.


At 6:15 p.m. a motion was made by Selectman Mackesy to enter into Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3-II(c) and seconded by David Hardwick; all voted in favor of entering Nonpublic Session. Also present during the Nonpublic Session was Town Administrator Kristie LaPlante and Highway Department employee Damon Beaudreau. Damon expressed his frustration with an employee purportedly speaking poorly of his performance within the Highway Department. He went on to share with the Selectmen several safety concerns he feels need to be addressed as well as lingering deferred maintenance to infrastructure, facilities, and equipment. The Selectmen will discuss and formulate a plan of action to address Damon's concerns at their full Board meeting next week. No decisions were made. Selectman Mackesy made a motion to reconvene the Public Session; seconded by Selectman Hardwick; all voted to reconvene the Public Session at 6:59 p.m.

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

- Heard a report that the logger for Intent to Cut 19-041-01 has been given permission from the State Forester and the Town for a Basal Area Variance, which will allow for hazardous and/or diseased trees within the Town right of way to be removed. In exchange the Highway Department will provide traffic control when the logger is operating in the Town's right of way.
- Were discouraged to learn that Highway Department has not started to repair a drainage issue on Mountain Road.
- Declined to approve shorts as regular summer attire for the Highway Department.
- Reviewed and approved Yield Tax Levies for Operations 18-041-04, 18-041-05, 18-041-06, 18-041-07.
- Reviewed a Veteran's Tax Credit Application received on May 16, 2019 (deadline is April 15). Based on a report from the Town Administrator that the application document was delivered to the property owner several months ago, the Selectmen voted to deny award of the Credit for the 2019 Tax Year due to tardy filing.

There being no other business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kristie LaPlante