

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – August 21, 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 6:01 p.m.

At 6:04 p.m. a motion was made by Selectman Jim Cleary to enter in to Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3-II(c) and seconded by Mark Mackesy; all voted in favor of entering Nonpublic Session. Also present during the Nonpublic Session was Town Administrator Kristie LaPlante. Kristie shared with the Board the verbal resignation she received from the Road Agent; no date certain was provided. The Town Administrator was instructed to call Gary while in Nonpublic Session to see if he could attend tonight's meeting. Mr. Russell advised he could not attend the meeting. The Selectmen intend to meet with the Road Agent next week to further discuss. Selectman Mackesy made a motion to reconvene the Public Session; seconded by Selectman Cleary; all voted to reconvene the Public Session at 6:10 p.m.

The Selectmen met with Debra Davidson, applicant for the Administrative Assistant position. Motion was made, seconded, and the Selectmen unanimously voted to hire Debra Davidson with a start date of September 16, 2019. The Selectmen intend to retain Deb's services as Welfare Director, with any welfare duties to be compensated at the rate she is currently receiving as Welfare Director.

Town Administrator Kristie LaPlante briefed the Board on conversations she has had with Joe MacGregor and Mike Munhall from the Conservation Commission about the trees that have fallen in the river across from Alberto's Restaurant. Based on guidance from Mr. MacGregor, Kristie received an estimate to remove the trees utilizing a crane. Selectman Cleary reported he has attempted to contact Peter Leischman of the Milford-Bennington Railroad to see if the Town can obtain permission to run a skidder on the tracks and remove the trees that way. The Selectmen tabled discussion until they determine if they will be able to use the tracks with heavy equipment.

In other news on their Agenda, the Board:

- Heard a report that no applications have been received for the open Highway Department position.
- Reviewed and approved the Payroll Registers for August 15 and 22, 2019 and the Accounts Payable Register for August 15, 2019.
- Heard a report that NH DES conducted a Compliance Inspection at the Transfer Station on August 14, 2019 and reviewed a Hazardous Waste Inspection Exit Debriefing from the Inspection. The Town Office staff is working to contact the Town's universal waste vendors to obtain copies of shipping records as required.
- Reviewed the Road Agent's Work Plan for week ending August 25, 2019 (received August 19, 2019). The Selectmen discussed a June 4th site visit on Pine Meadows and agreed that the work will be completed as the schedule permits.
- Authorized the Police Chief to proceed with the hiring process for a part-time employee.
- Heard a report that an employee was stung multiple times by hornets at the old snow dump. Selectman Mackesy escorted the employee to the Emergency Room for treatment. Mackesy plans to return to the site at dusk to mitigate any remaining hornets.

There being no other business before the Board the meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristie LaPlante, Town Administrator