

TOWN OF BENNINGTON

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Minutes of the Meeting – September 15, 2020

Selectmen James Cleary, David Hardwick, Sr., and David Foster were present as well as Town Administrator Kristie LaPlante. The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

Road Agent Hazen Fisk met with the Selectmen to continue discussion of purchasing a used loader to replace the Town's John Deere 444C Loader that has been placed out of service due to safety concerns. Hazen has a lead on a 2014 John Deere 524K with 4,860 hours. The Selectmen authorized Hazen to test drive and operate the Loader in order to determine if that piece of equipment would be a good asset for the Town.

Town Administrator Kristie LaPlante reported on a conversation she had with Highway Department employee Chris Davies who was unable to attend the Selectmen's meeting and requested the Town Administrator to speak with the Selectmen on his behalf. Chris has reported that his children will be remote learning on Wednesdays and asked for the Selectmen to consider changing his schedule to allow him to continue to work full-time and accommodate remote learning. The Selectmen agreed to change Chris' schedule to Thursday through Monday and will search for staffing alternatives for Wednesdays at the Transfer Station.

Kevin Willette met with the Selectmen to request their consideration of becoming a Purple Heart Town. In recognition and honor of our military personnel who have been wounded or killed in combat with hostile forces, the Selectmen signed a Proclamation designating Bennington as a Purple Heart Community and have designated August 7<sup>th</sup> as Purple Heart Day in the Town of Bennington. The Selectmen intends to work the NH Department of Transportation to have Purple Heart Community signs placed on Routes 202, 31, and 47.

The Town Administrator reported receiving two calls from local contractors interested in mowing the Tri Town Landfill. The Selectmen discussed the inquiries and opted to not mow the Landfill this year.

The Town Administrator briefed the Selectmen on the following matters:

- Former Town Administrator Bill Reid passed away in August. The Selectmen took a few moments to reflect on Bill's time in Town and the legacy he left behind.
- The Department of Revenue has approved the Town's request to extend submission of the MS-1 Values until October 15, 2020.
- Correspondence received from a motorist expressing their appreciation for replacing flags and holders in the center of Town.
- The Welcome to Bennington signs were recently painted as well as the benches at Sawyer Park.
- Ciardelli Fuels has completed the swap of all propane tanks.
- Crotched Mountain Ski Area has offered season ski passes to full-time employees.

In addition, the Selectmen acted on the following matters:

- Reviewed and approved the Minutes of the Board's September 1, 2020 meeting.

- Reviewed and approved the Accounts Payable Registers for August 31, September 3, and September 10.
- Reviewed and approved the Payroll Registers for September 3 and September 10, 2020.
- Heard a report that NH DOT has received the Town's letter requesting an evaluation of the speed limit and passing zones between Antrim Road and the Antrim town line. The local District Office has forwarded the Town's inquiry to the Concord office for further discussion. The Selectmen expressed their continued concerns about site distance, speed limits, and the location of two passing zones.
- Signed the GOFERR Reimbursement request for all expenses through August 31, 2020.
- Reviewed and signed the amended Fee Schedule & Operating Agreement with the Antrim Water & Sewer Department.
- Signed a Timber Tax Warrant for Operation 19-041-09.

The meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristie LaPlante, Town Administrator