

**Bennington Board of Selectmen**  
**August 17, 2021 6:00 PM**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** James Cleary, David Hardwick,

**Absent:** David Foster

**Appointments:** 6:00 PM – Meredith Desaulniers, Dave Desaulniers & Richard Foote were present to discuss property on Switzer Road, Map 20 Lot 20-1. Mr. Foote explained when the last perambulation took place 7 acres that was in Deering was found to belong in Bennington. This created a back lot, that the only access is off a Class VI Road, Switzer Road. Access to the property was discussed. Selectmen indicated they would either have to bring the Class VI Road up to a Class V or see if they could access it through Deering. There was discussion about emergency services, who would respond Deering or Bennington. It was determined that the Desaulniers would approach Deering Selectmen and see what their determination on the lot will be. Chairman Cleary indicated he would speak with Chief Sullivan regarding emergency response, and this will also be discussed with Fire Chief, Dave Foster next week at the next Selectmen’s Meeting.

6:35 In accordance with RSA 91A:3, II(b) motion by Chairman Cleary to enter into a non-public session. Seconded by David Hardwick. All in favor.

6:45 motion by Chairman Cleary to enter out of non-public. Seconded by David Hardwick. All in favor.

Decision: No decisions were made.

Mark Mackesy asked who the Road Agent was, Selectmen informed him it was, and will continue to be Matt Blanchard, they also mentioned that Douglas Wing has been hired as the foreman of the highway department. Mackesy asked about the PSNH abatement, Selectmen updated him. Mackesy also briefly discussed solar panels for the town, locations and the advantages.

**Minutes:** Motion by Chairman Cleary to accept August 3, 2021 minutes as written. Seconded by Hardwick. Minutes accepted.

**Financial:** Payroll Registers -  
A/P Registers –

**Old Business: Cupola** – Proposal from Guyer Roofing, Deb reported she has called Guyer Roofing 2 times and has not yet received the quote. She will call again tomorrow. The bat infestation in the attic of the Town Office Building was discussed.

**VFW** –

- Painting - Norm Mercier to start painting exterior this year; Mike Young will construct a new handicap ramp, which will be completed before snow fall.
- Piano – There is a Piano in the VFW, it was asked could it be disposed of. Selectmen tabled this until they have a chance to go look at it.
- VFW Use – The Conservation Commission would like to use VFW Thursday for their meeting. Selectmen approved this request.

**Cleaning Services** – McGurty will not re-adjust their bid – McGurty \$7800.00/year; Pat Long/Becky Lambert - \$5,760.00 and town employees. Brief discussion, this was Tabled at this time.

**New Business: Sawyer Field** - Bethany Craig sent an email asking to have a trial run for a farmers market at Sawyer Field, Tuesdays 3-6 PM (Sept 21 & 28, October 5 & 12). Selectmen approved this request. Deb will notify Bethany.

**Onset Rd** – The office received an e-mail from resident Lori Baldwin, Onset Road regarding driveway concerns on a property on Onset Road. Town Administrator, Deb Davidson reported the property owner, does have a bond for the driveway, and has been working with Road Agent, Matt Blanchard. August 12, 2021 Matt Blanchard had met with the property owner and discussed installation of the driveway culvert. Stone was delivered but no culvert installed. Matt Blanchard will let the resident know, he has until September 1, 2021 to get this straightened out. This could have the potential for causing dangerous road conditions if not installed properly. Lori Baldwin will be notified of this.

**Dept. Head Updates:** Road Agent had provided a weekly work log, Selectmen reviewed it.

**Correspondence:** Water test results

Background check – OK

**Review/Approve/Signatures: Abatement** – Dennis Vergato, water bill of \$261.69

**Treasurer** – Treasurer, Rhonda Davie would like a document signed authorizing C. McGillicuddy permission to access banking in times when vacation/sick etc. is needed. Selectmen signed the authorization form.

**Other:**

- **4 South Bennington Rd.** - Selectmen would like Code Officer, John Kendall to work with the owner of 4 South Bennington Road to get the property cleaned up and to help them go to the ZBA.
- **Whittemore Lake Closure** – Selectmen discussed EMD, Keith Nason closing the Lake with no notification to the Selectmen. Selectman Hardwick knew nothing about it, Chairman Cleary updated Hardwick. Chairman Cleary learned of it when someone saw it on Facebook and asked him about it. The problem was muskrats that had clogged a culvert, someone tried to clean the culvert and it released stagnant water and cat tails, water and sludge flowing down into the lake. Selectmen would like Keith Nason to come to the meeting on August 24 at 6:30.
- **Highway Dept.** - Selectmen would like Road Agent, Matt Blanchard & DJ Wing to meet and discuss how the new regime is working. Deb will see if they can meet next week at 6:00 pm.

With nothing further, Chairman Cleary adjourned the meeting at 7:25 pm. Seconded by Selectman Hardwick. The next scheduled Selectmen's Meeting will be on Tuesday, August 24, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Debra Davidson, Town Administrator