

**Bennington Board of Selectmen**  
**September 7, 2021 6:00 PM**  
**Meeting Minutes**

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

Chairman Cleary opened the meeting at 6:00 PM.

**Appointments: 6:00 PM – Library Trustees and Librarian,** Leslie MacGregor were all present to discuss Melissa Searles salary & benefits. Jill Wilmoth opened the meeting by stating they would like to increase her wages and her hours in 2022. It was further discussed, Melissa has a great skillset, is a very affective employee, goes over and above, has been extremely dedicated to the town and could easily move on to another Library. The discussion continued with all that Melissa does. They are asking to increase her wage to \$17.00 per hour and provide her one additional hour, making her able to participate in the NHRS as all other full-time employees. This would increase the line item budget from \$26,740 to \$30,940. Chairman Cleary stated that the Board will discuss this amongst themselves and thanked everyone for this input. With budgets being due soon Leslie stated they wanted the Selectmen to be aware of their intentions.

Library Windows – Leslie discussed this was a great move, brightens the library and the windows are very efficient. This will be a huge energy savings this winter.

Chairman Cleary briefly discussed solar options with Molly Eppig and David McKenzie. Molly stated she has spoken to Revision Energy. Options of placement were discussed, best if there is land with buildings on it. Fire Station was discussed, metal roofs were also discussed. Molly indicated once she has more information she will meet with Dave McKenzie and the Board to provide them with updates.

**6:30 – Cary Holter, Onset Road** – re: driveway matters – Mr. Holter was present because he has heard from the police that there are many complaints about his property and what is going on. He mentioned everything has been done with guidance of the Building Inspector and the Road Agent. Holter discussed options going for, he would like to build, would like to mill the logs himself. Holter indicated he knows there have been many complaints about parking on the site and asked Selectmen if he could put signs indication “construction site” or “temporary parking”.

Selectmen denied the request to put signage on the road, and notified Holter that there is a No Parking ban on roads November 1 – April 1.

Holter will be provided a copy of the Zoning Ordinance. He indicated he wished the neighbors who have concerns would talk to him directly and not go through the police.

Resident/Neighbor Felix Kagi was present and expressed his concerns about the parking on the road. He suggested contacting Crotched Mtn. to see if on a temporary basis he could park vehicles down below. Holter was receptive of this suggestion and indicated he would do that. He also realized he had a hydraulic hose let go on his equipment. He is working on getting the part, and will move it as soon as it is repaired. He has been trying to pressure wash the road, asked for suggestions. Selectman Foster suggested mix some Simple Green and try that.

Holter agrees – No signage is allowed

Contact Crotched Mountain, Jason Pearle, to inquire about parking in their parking lot. Move equipment as soon as possible, so it does not impede the vision of driving on the road.

Work towards pressure washing the road, to try and remove hydraulic fluid with Simple Green

**Minutes:** Selectmen read and accepted minutes of the August 24, 2021 Selectmen's Meeting

**Financial:** Payroll Register  
A/P Register –

**Old Business: Cupola** – Selectmen reviewed a proposal from Guyer Roofing for repairs to Cupola. After a brief discussion, the proposal was signed and will be sent to Guyer Roofing and to Primex.

**Whittemore Lake** – State of NH Representative, John Leonard is currently up in the Connecticut River Valley – Mr. Leonard is addressing some flooding in the North Country, when that is complete he will come and trap the muskrats and relocate them.

**VFW** – Chairman Cleary has spoken to Steve Frosch, he has ordered and will repair the damaged roof. The town will reimburse him for the cost of materials.

**Piano**-Chairman Cleary has not had a chance to speak to anyone about the piano, but he will get back to the board once he does.

**Desaulniers** – Selectman Foster reported he has spoken with Antrim & Deering, both have agreed to respond to the property on Switzer Road if the sale goes forward. Foster has discussed this with Mr. & Mrs. Desaulniers.

**New Business:** Langenberg - 16 Bible Hill Rd., contacted the office with concerns there is no drain near the cemetery, the road is collapsing and water is deteriorating the cemetery wall. This was repaired recently, Chairman Cleary will look at it and if needed contact the Road Agent. Deb will let the Langenberg's know.

**Dept. Head Updates:** Vergato ZBA Hearing – September 20, 2021 at 7:15 pm.

Fire Chief Foster reported the town has been awarded the Multi-Town grant for the replacement of radios. \$3,000 will be the Town of Bennington contribution.

Selectmen discussed the old fire whistle needs to come down. It was discussed maybe it can be removed when the roofers are here with a boom. A new one will be installed.

**Correspondence:** There was no miscellaneous correspondence

**Review/Approve/Signatures:** Guyer Roofing Bid

Municipal Work Zone Agreement with State of NH for the S.  
Bennington Bridge project.

MS-535 was signed

**Adjournment:** With nothing further, Chairman Cleary adjourned the meeting at 7:27 pm. The next Selectmen's meeting will be Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Davidson, Town Administrator