

Bennington Board of Selectmen
December 14, 2021 6:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

Present: James Cleary, David Hardwick, David Foster

Appointments: 6:00 – Water/Sewer Commissioners – The Water/Sewer Commissioners, Tyler Howe and Dennis McKenney were present to discuss the proposed 2022 budget.

- Discussion followed regarding water repair and maintenance line which will include Pierce Hill, off 202 and main street. The sewer to Town of Antrim is a little lower, as is the sewer repair and maintenance, Matt Miller will be asked why and the commissioners will report back to the office.
- Discussion for the new line items, video technology & horizontal boring were discussed. The boring will be done over a two-year time and is mandated via the utilization of the permit from Antrim. There is a sustainability grant that will be applied for with the assistance of Underwood Engineers. Any fees for Underwood Engineers will be paid through the grant.
- Discussion regarding increasing the user rates in 2022 followed, it is reasonable that the users should cover the operating costs and that is the ultimate goal, the Commissioners are working towards this over the next few years. Currently, only 30% of the user fee is covered by users. NH Drinking water Association will calculate the necessary increases to have it be paid for by the users over a period of time determined by the Boards.
- The recent ARPA funds will cover modern meters – this will allow for more efficient, more accurate reading and will lower the cost to Antrim. New meters will increase revenues and lower costs. Matt Miller is getting together final figures for back flow, town buildings and the ball fields which are currently not metered.
- A back-up well for future was briefly discussed.

6:30 – Keith Nason – to discuss Hazardous Mitigation Plan there has been a lot of work done on this plan. Selectmen signed the declaration allowing for FEMA, Homeland Security and other eligible funding.

- Department Heads recently met with the Ski area and Bridge Street Recovery, Nason reported was a good meeting all around.
- Dollar General has recently been challenging. They had a 48-hour notice to rectify life safety violations. They worked hard to clear up all the life safety issues. Chief Foster & Nason will follow up on this.

- Nason stated he will get a price for outfitting the new cruiser, he is confident it will be a reasonable price and much less than current quote is for.

Minutes: Motion by Chairman Cleary to accept the minutes of December 7, 2021 as written, seconded by Selectman Hardwick. All in favor.

Financial: Payroll Register
A/P Register
2022 Budget, Capital Reserve, prepare for the Budget Committee

Old Business: Town Office - Bat Guano discussion continued, JP Pest hand NH Wildlife representatives here today, they will be providing a quote. Matt Harwood will also be providing a quote.

Review/Approve/Signatures: Building Permit – Guadagno M20 L3, P & B Barn

Other: Town Meeting - Selectmen reviewed the calendar and set tentative dates for deliberative sessions. Deb will double check with ConVal before solidifying any dates.

Non-Public - 7:15 in accordance with RSA 91A:3, II (c) motion by Chairman Cleary to enter into a Non-Public Session. Seconded by Hardwick & Foster.

7:30 motion by Chairman Cleary to enter out of the non-public session. Seconded by Hardwick & Foster.

Decision: Selectmen will forgive the interest on the property discussed.

With nothing further Chairman Cleary motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:50pm. Seconded by Hardwick & Foster. The next Selectmen’s meeting will be on Tuesday, December 21, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Davidson, Town Administrator