

**Bennington Board of Selectmen**  
**December 13, 2022 6:00 PM**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Chairman, James Cleary, Tom James, David Foster

Chairman, Cleary called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm

Selectmen discussed the \$8,000.00 hydrant flushing, all Selectmen agreed the funds will be put into the General Government Buildings-Maintenance Line item.

**Appointments:**

**6:15** - Bennington Budget Committee member Shelly Griswold was present, Recreation members Jessie Crews, Alexander Crews & Haley Tramosch were also present to discuss going forward with the Rhubarb Festival and other recreation events. Jessie presented her thoughts for marketing options for the Rhubarb Festival. Discussion followed as to the origination of the Rhubarb Festival and it being a fundraiser with proceeds being donated to the Library for an addition. This has not come to be a reality at this time. Vendors and vendor fees were discussed. Making the goal for the Festival to become solvent was discussed. A printout of the revenues vs. expenditures will be presented to Jessie and Bethany.

Also discussed was making the Rhubarb Festival a line item of its own within the budget. This is not recommended at this time, the DRA is comfortable with it remaining in the Recreation Line, it seems to be the most appropriate place for it within the budget.

Town recreational inventory was discussed. No decisions can be made at this time. Selectmen would like to invite Bethany Craig to the next meeting to discuss this further. Town Administrator will ask her if she could be at the next Selectmen's Meeting 12/20/22 for 6:45 pm.

Town Administrator did mention, there are some Journal Entries that Bethany Craig had said needed to be made. Deb has not been told what is incorrectly posted, she will ask Bethany and get it taken care of as soon as possible.

Selectmen thanked the Recreation members for their attendance at the meeting.

**Minutes:** Chairman Cleary motioned to accept the minutes of 12/6/22, seconded by Selectman James.

**Financial:** Selectmen reviewed and signed the following Payroll Registers – 12/15; FD Payroll for October

Selectmen reviewed and signed the A/P Register for the week of 12/08

**Miscellaneous Discussion:**

- **Conval invoice** - An Invoice from ConVal for Custodial Services was reviewed and discussed. Chairman Cleary reported that in 1995 (approximately), one of the selling points for ConVal was the Town would be able to use the multi-purpose room at no charge. They promised this would be a benefit to the community. Selectmen indicated the invoice should be held at this time and discussed at a later date with ConVal.
- **Budget Hearing** - Discussion of the Budget Hearing being held at Pierce Elementary School on Tuesday, January 10, 2022 at 6:00 pm. A snow date will be reserved for Tuesday, January 17, 2022. Town Administrator, Deb Davidson will contact PES and obtain the facility permit to reserve the evening.
- **Establishing a Capital Reserve Fund** - Selectmen discussed establishing a 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary CRF and setting funds aside for seed money when the time comes for the celebration. No decision was made at this time.
- **Edward French Scholarship** - Edward French Scholarship Trust Fund has near zero dollars in it, discussion to close the account and the town will budget the funds annually.
- **Fire Truck** – Selectman Foster discussed he is getting a warrant article together for the lease purchase of a new fire truck. He will get the article to the Town Administrator as soon as possible.

With nothing further, Chairman Cleary motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:24 pm. Seconded by Selectmen James and Foster. The next Selectmen’s Meeting will be Tuesday, December 20, 2022 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Davidson  
Town Administrator

