

Bennington Board of Selectmen
January 24, 2023 6:00 PM
Meeting Minutes

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

Appointments:

6:30 – Code Officer - John Kendall

- **Lift/Elevator** – John was before the board to discuss the elevator/lift that is going to be built. It is designed to sit on concrete, wood is not a rated setting for the lift. John did contact the company and was told if a structural engineer approves a stamped design the State will then approve the lift. The State is required to approve all lifts, John strongly recommends hiring a structural engineer. Also, this would help with the design opening on the second floor. The electrical is simple so that is not a problem.
- **198 US Highway route 202** – John discussed the mentioned property – it has a new owner, Cameron Quale, who would like to remove one of the trailers. It is currently assessed as a 3-family residence. The new owner has a very nice single-family home he would like to replace one of the trailers with, however it is a little larger than the current footprint and is a two story. It is a non-conforming lot, though it meets code requirements. The owner has applied and been approved for the shoreland protection from the NHDES and has also received an approval for operation for the upgrade of a septic from the State of NH. Discussion continued, it was decided since this a non-conforming lot, Mr. Quale needs to go before the ZBA, also he can't do a short-term rental without going to the ZBA.

John will write to Mr. Quale and deny his building application, instructing him to approach the ZBA for a variance.

- **Antrim Well House Permit** – There has been an application for a well pump house on Balch Farm Extension. It is a small well house, after a brief discussion everyone agreed there is no permit needed for this building.

Minutes: Motion by Chairman Cleary to accept the minutes of 1/17/23 as written, Seconded by Tom James. Minutes accepted.

Financial: Selectmen reviewed and signed the Payroll Register 1/19/23, they further reviewed and signed the Accounts Payable Register for 1/19/23.

New Business:

- **CNP – cyclical reval proposal** – Selectmen did not approve this proposal, they would like the reval put out to bid before accepting this proposal.
- **Anonymous donation** – Selectmen were made aware of an anonymous donation for the office to distribute appropriately. A Thank you card was sent to the donor.

Signatures: The warrant and proposed budget were presented to the Board for signatures. They will be posted on January 30, 2023.

Other:

- **VFW** - Selectman Foster discussed during the power outage while working on getting the VFW set up for shelter if needed, the quick disconnect was missing from the propane tanks. The Town Administrator will ask the Road Agent if he is aware of this.
- **Tri-Town** – Selectman James asked about the tri-town monitoring. Who is actually monitoring the removal of the gravel? Selectman James was provided a copy of the original agreement. Chairman Cleary explained how it is an honor system, each year Frankestown, Antrim and Bennington are supposed to provide the Road Agent with reports for how much they have taken out. Frankestown has almost taken their allotment. The Town Administrator and Road Agent will get together and review the last few years. Frankestown has provided reports for 2020, 2021 and 2022, Antrim has not. Cleary discussed there are three phases to the pit, there is over a million yards of gravel. The last time it was closely reviewed was 2017 or 2018.
- **Monadnock Sustainability HUB** – Selectmen were informed the MSH and the Bennington Energy Committee will meet next week with the Selectmen to discuss Basics of Community Power and see how Bennington can benefit from the programs offered.

With nothing further, Chairman Cleary adjourned the meeting at 6:55 pm. Seconded by Selectmen Foster & James. The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, January 31, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Davidson, Town Administrator

