

## **Bennington Board of Selectmen**

**April 17, 2023 6:00 PM**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Chairman, James Cleary, Tom James, Tony Parisi

Motion by Chairman Cleary to open the meeting at 6:02 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Selectman James. Motion passed

**Public:** Bethany Craig

#### **Appointments:**

**6:30 Chief LePine** – Selectmen and Chief LePine were together to discuss a recent request for a dispatch log. Chairman Cleary had asked Town Administrator to obtain the log due to the several calls he had received about an incident on Sunday, April 9, 2023. Chief LePine discussed his rationale for how the call was handled and why. Keith Nason discussed Town Administrator also got the dispatch logs for the Fire Department.

6:55 pm – In accordance with RSA 91A:3 II (c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant.

Motion by Chairman Cleary to enter into a non-public session. Seconded by Selectman James.

8:02 pm – motion by Chairman Cleary to enter out of the non-public session. Seconded by Selectman James.

Decision: No decisions were made at this time.

**Kevin Bishop** – Kevin is the owner of Map 1 Lot 16. Though not on the agenda, he spoke to the Selectmen for a few minutes regarding his struggle with the Planning Board, he is trying to get the property sub-divided and the Planning Board has made

it very difficult. The original application was submitted back in October 2022. A discussion followed. The Town Administrator was instructed to contact, Planning Board Chair, Corey Lawrence and see how this can get resolved. Mr. Bishop provided his phone number and the Town Administrator will contact him after she speaks with Mr. Lawrence. Mr. Bishop thanked the Board for their time.

**Resident, Scott Liljeberg** – Mr. Liljeberg wanted the board to know, he would like to discuss the Recreation By-Laws and provide some input before they accept the document. Selectmen assured Mr. Liljeberg, they won't be reviewing the by-laws for a couple of weeks and will allow for input from Mr. Liljeberg and the public prior to acceptance.

**Minutes:** Chairman Cleary motioned to accept the minutes of April 10, 2023 as written, seconded by Tom James. Voted all in favor to accept the minutes.

**Financial:** Selectmen reviewed and approved the Payroll Register for the week of 4/13/2023 as well as, A/P Register for the week of 4/13/2023.

### **New Business:**

- Planning Board Alternate - it was voted that James Cleary will be appointed the PB Alternate
- Conservation Commission Alternate - it was voted that Thomas James will be appointed the Conservation Commission Alternate
- Selectman's Advisory Representative - it was voted that Tony Parisi will be the Selectman's Advisory Committee Representative.

### **Policies:**

- Sawyer Field Facility Use – Selectmen approved with changes and signed
- Sawyer Field Policy – Selectmen signed the policy
- Personnel Policies – updated policies were signed
- Review and edit Selectmen Duties & Guidelines, Investment Policies, Fund Balance Policy. This was put on hold until the next Selectmen's Meeting. The

Recreation By-Laws will be discussed at the Selectmen's Meeting scheduled for May 1, 2023.

### **Signatures:**

**Sawyer Field Usage Requests** – Croquette Club application was discussed. One option is could Croquette alternate Tuesday's with the 4-H Club, Bethany Craig said she thought that could be a good option. Town Administrator will reach out to Jessie Crews and discuss this further.

**Gravel Tax** – Selectmen signed the warrant for Map 11 Lot 12 gravel tax

**Intent to Cut** – Selectmen signed an intent to cut for Map 3 Lot 26

**Bar Harbor Bank & Trust** – Signature updates for all three Selectmen. With Trustee of Trust Funds Chair, Bethany Craig being present, it was briefly discussed that Shelly Griswold, Bar Harbor Bank & Trust would like to get together and discuss with the TTF options for investments. Shelly has also expressed interest in getting together with the Treasurer and/or Selectmen to discuss financial investment options.

### **Other:**

**Emergency Management Director - Keith Nason** – Keith was present and discussed a Homeland Security Grant that is due for submission this week. It is quite possible the Town could receive funds for the reimbursement of costs related to the snow storm of March 14 – March 17 if it is declared an emergency.

**Cleaning** - Keith asked about the cleaning at the Fire Department, they would like it cleaned on a weekly basis. Town Administrator said she will pass along the message.

**Ambulance** – Keith discussed the ambulance and the Bennington volume has increased dramatically. 43% of the calls are Bennington, no one wants the rates to increase, the suggestion of perhaps a few people from Bennington be paid by Antrim and be allowed to become part-time paid employees of Antrim in an effort

to keep costs down. Bennington is still looking for EMT's. It should be noted that 32 out of 70 calls have been for the Ski Area.

Selectmen thanked Mr. Nason for this information.

**Sprinkler System Install** – Selectmen inquired as to when JCL will be installing the line. Town Administrator informed the Board that Life Safety had been to the office and taken measurements. No word as to when they intend to begin. Town Administrator will follow up with David Foster and see where we are in the process, reporting back to the board.

**Resident, Bethany Craig** –

**Beach attendant** - Bethany wanted Selectmen to know she spoke with Justin Drew who is available on Tuesdays to help at Whittemore Lake.

**Raft** - Bethany would like a date for the raft to be put in. Discussion followed, no date was determined at this time.

**Sawyer Field** –

**Field Clean up** - 4-H will be at Sawyer Field to do clean up on April 22, 2023

**Picnic tables** – Bethany reported the picnic tables need repair. Bethany asked if DJ & Matt get them and fix them up? Selectmen discussed this and instructed the Town Administrator to discuss this with Matt.

Bethany further discussed that the beach picnic tables need painting and asked if the 4-H could volunteer to paint them if the town would provide the paint. Selectmen discussed this request and approved it. Paint can be purchased at Edmunds and put on the Town Account.

**Flags** – Bethany discussed Girl Scouts traditionally set and replace flags, they will be having the assistance of 4-H this year. She also asked about the Flags on the pole at the VFW and would like to replace them. Town Administrator will contact Mike Frosch.

**Community Suppers** – Bethany discussed starting September she will be taking over the Community Suppers.

With nothing further, Motion by Chairman Cleary to adjourn the meeting at 8:25pm. Seconded by Selectmen James and Parisi. All in favor. The next scheduled Selectmen’s Meeting is Monday, April 24, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Davidson, Town Administrator